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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, the recent numbers are staggering: 500,000 deaths from COVID, 58 people who have died in the winter storms of the last 10 days, and at one point 4 million households were without power in Texas.

In the face of the enormity of these figures, we come to You this day at a loss for words, few answers, and in some cases no hope.

Speak to us, O infinite Lord. How precious are Your thoughts, how vast is their sum. If we could count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. You who have determined the number of the stars and call them each by name, great are You our Lord and mighty in power. Your understanding has no limit.

In Your attention to us, You have numbered the hairs on our heads. We ask then that You would heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds. Cover us with Your eternity. May we rest secure in knowing that You will never leave nor forsake us.

It is in the strength of Your everlasting name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(A) of House Resolution 8, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 146

Resolved, That following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Ms. Tenney (to rank immediately after Mr. Meuser).

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Ms. Tenney (to rank immediately after Mr. Meuser).

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOMEZ). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

EDUCATORS OWED BASIC PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION

(Ms. BOURDEAUX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as we celebrate Public Schools Week, to talk about the urgent need to protect our teachers, educational support staff, all of their fami-

lies, and the community at large in our schools.

While the national debate has centered around schools that are closed, in many States, such as Georgia, school districts with high COVID transmission rates are back to in-person teaching, but often without basic safety standards in place, such as requiring students to wear masks on school property.

Teachers and staff in Georgia do not enjoy the protection of strong teacher unions, and the State has exempted schools from liability around COVID. A teacher recognized for excellence in Forsyth County, in my district, chose to quit her job.

She wrote me, saying: Fortunately, my family earns enough money for me not to return to teach, but there are some others who don't have this blessing and are forced into dangerous circumstances. They can't speak up. They know their employment would be on the line if they did. So unless others like me speak up and out, this mess will continue.

Mr. Speaker, I join this teacher in speaking out. We owe our educators the courtesy of basic public health protection. We owe them prioritization in receiving the vaccine.

PARIS ACCORD DESTROYS JOBS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it has been estimated the Paris Accord adopted by President Joe Biden will destroy 2.7 million American jobs.

The Washington Examiner, on January 26, exposes more dangers to American families:

"President Biden's decision to rejoin the Paris climate accord immediately delivered . . . a gift to China.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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"It commits the United States . . . that will entangle American businesses and jobs in new lengths of red tape, and will also probably increase electricity prices.

"China, which emits twice as much carbon each year as we do, has given the rest of the world nothing but empty promises.

"Biden is giving away the store for nothing . . . he should demand external verification of emissions data. . . ."

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

I appreciate President Biden last night recognizing the lives lost by the Wuhan virus, joining President Trump last year, who took the first action to ban travel from China.

UNRELATED COVID RELIEF BILL

(Mr. POSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I have been reading the COVID "unrelated" relief bill. At least when President Trump was borrowing money to keep the economy from crashing, he was creating jobs, making America energy independent—lowering gasoline and fuel prices for every American family—lowering unemployment, protecting our borders, rebuilding our military, and so on.

Now, however, with the assistance of this Chamber, this administration is doing just the opposite.

It sounds like something right from the pages of Saul Alinsky's book, "Rules for Radicals," how malcontents propose to destroy America.

This COVID "unrelated" relief bill is more about keeping America closed and funding liberal policies than getting past this virus, and it is outrageous.

RECOGNIZING LUKA GARZA

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of someone in my district who is not as vertically challenged as I am.

This past weekend, University of Iowa men's basketball player Luka Garza broke the University of Iowa's all-time scoring record in basketball. The new record of 2,126 points put Luka ahead of the late Roy Marble, who held the previous record of 2,116 points for over 30 years.

A native of the D.C. area, Luka was a star player for the Maret School, leading the Frogs to a city championship while being named Gatorade D.C. Player of the Year and setting the school points record.

Luka has been a dominant player in college basketball since his first game

as a University of Iowa Hawkeye against Chicago State. Since then, he has gone on to win numerous conference and national awards, including Big Ten Player of Year and the Sporting News Player of the Year last season.

As a former faculty member at the university, I was thrilled when Luka decided to return to Iowa City for his senior season instead of heading to the NBA draft. With four regular season games, the Big Ten Tournament, and March Madness left, I have no doubt that Luka will continue to break his own record and make Iowa proud and the best place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

PRESERVING OUR CIVIL RIGHTS

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as we convene this week, I would like to ask all of my fellow colleagues and Members of the 117th Congress to reflect on the words right there on the wall: In God We Trust.

God created us male and female. In His image, He created us. The Equality Act that we are to vote on this week destroys God's creation. It also completely annihilates women's rights and religious freedoms.

It can be handled completely differently to stop discrimination without destroying women's rights, little girls' rights in sports, and religious freedoms violating everything that we hold dear in God's creation.

As we are reflecting on the 500,000 people who have died from COVID-19, I would like to remind everyone that over 62 million people have been murdered in the womb in our country and that our tax dollars many times have funded it. This is an evil that should not exist in our land, and I ask all Members of Congress to stop this evil now.

HONORING SHARON SANDERS

(Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Sharon Sanders, one of Charlotte's great philanthropists and the founder of Kids First of the Carolinas, which through the decades has provided essentials and Christmas gifts to over 35,000 children and families in the Charlotte area. Ms. Sanders died January 14 after a battle with cancer.

Sharon was a wife, mother, and friend to all, with an extraordinary passion for helping others. Her love for children led to her founding Kids First; and with the assistance of legendary Charlotte broadcaster John Hancock, the organization was able to expand outreach, providing for more than 2,000 children every Christmas and raising about \$80,000 a year.

Even as she endured treatment for cancer, Sharon remained devoted to Kids First. Despite her hospitalization, she was overjoyed that they were, once again, able to help over 1,000 families during the holidays past.

Mr. Speaker, the Charlotte community will miss Sharon greatly. It is a privilege to honor her memory today.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DEMINGS) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

JOSEPH HAYNE RAINEY MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 264) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 264

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOSEPH HAYNE RAINEY MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues here in the House in consideration of H.R. 264 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

Joseph Rainey was the first African-American Member of the United States House of Representatives and one of 14 Black Representatives elected before the end of Reconstruction in 1877.

Joseph Rainey was born into slavery in Georgetown, South Carolina, in 1832. His father was a barber and used his earnings to buy freedom for himself and his family and, yes, including Joseph. Later, during the Civil War, Joseph was drafted by the Confederacy, but he escaped to Bermuda and his wife and he there started a business.

In 1866, he returned to Georgetown where he became the county's Republican Party chairman. Just a few years later, in 1870, he was elected to the United States Congress where he served until 1879, making him the longest serving African-American Member of Congress in the 19th century.

Following his time in Congress, Rainey was appointed as a Federal agent of the U.S. Treasury Department. He returned to South Carolina in 1886 and, unfortunately, passed away the following year in Georgetown.

Representative Joe Rainey fought tirelessly for civil rights, education, and economic opportunity for all people. He left behind a legacy that will never be forgotten. So, at the very least, naming a post office in his honor will continually help all of us to remember the contributions of this remarkable trailblazer.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) for his remarks.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the First District of South Carolina for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 264.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. Will the gentleman put on his mask, please.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Oh, I thought you could take it off when you are speaking. I am sorry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 264, to rename the Post Office in Georgetown, South Carolina, the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office.

A man, a trailblazer of many firsts, a civil rights pioneer, an American hero that I had never heard of before I got to Congress; I first learned of him because his portrait hangs on the wall in the halls of the House of Representatives.

Joseph Rainey was the first African-American Member of the United States

House of Representatives. Rainey was born into slavery in Georgetown in 1832. His father was a slave, but also a barber, and used his earnings to buy freedom for himself and his family, including Joseph.

During the Civil War, Joseph Rainey was conscripted into the Confederate Army, but he escaped to Bermuda with his family and built a prosperous business as a barber.

In 1866, he returned to Georgetown, where he became the county's Republican Party Chairman. In 1870, he was elected to the United States Congress, where he served until 1879. Think about that for a moment. The first African American to serve in the United States Congress was a former slave and a Republican from Georgetown, South Carolina.

His tenure in Congress was distinguished by its advancement of civil rights, equality, and opportunity for all. He fought against violence and intimidation toward African Americans. In 1878, as Reconstruction was ending, he was defeated in his last race for Congress. He was one of 14 Black Representatives elected before the end of Reconstruction in 1877. He was the longest-serving African-American Member of Congress, a record which stood until the 1950s.

Following his time in Congress, Rainey was appointed as a Federal agent of the United States Treasury Department for the Internal Revenue Service in South Carolina.

In 1866, he returned to South Carolina for good and passed away the following year in Georgetown. Rainey fought tirelessly for equal rights, education, and economic opportunity for all. He left behind a legacy that has improved the lives of generations, not just in South Carolina, but across the country.

Representative Rainey's house still stands in historic Georgetown. It is located at 921 Prince Street. It was designated a national historic landmark in 1984, and I had the opportunity to visit just last year. The next time you are close by, stroll by the modest home in downtown Georgetown and pause for a moment to marvel at the life of an American hero; a man born a slave, a successful entrepreneur, escaped conscription in the Civil War, and served as a Representative in the United States Congress. What a remarkable life.

It was a privilege to introduce this bill that honors a true American patriot like Mr. Rainey. All South Carolinians, all Americans, can look up to Joseph Rainey as a trailblazer of civil rights.

I would like to thank Lorna Rainey, the great-granddaughter of Joseph Rainey, for her support in this effort.

I also want to thank Representative CLYBURN and Representative MACE, who helped move this through committee and bring it to the floor, along with the entire South Carolina House delegation for their cosponsorship of this bill.

This is a much-deserved honor for an accomplished American patriot from South Carolina, Joseph Rainey. I urge my colleagues to vote "yea".

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. MFUME for yielding time, and I thank Mr. RICE for introducing this legislation.

Madam Speaker, when I was first elected to Congress, I visited Congressman CLYBURN's office seeking his assistance with committee assignments. While there, I noticed the pictures of eight former South Carolina Congressmen, all African American, hanging prominently in his outer office.

Among those was Joseph Rainey, the first African American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. I was unaware of Mr. Rainey, and so I became curious about this man.

Joseph Rainey was born to enslaved parents on June 21, 1832, in Georgetown, South Carolina, a community heavily dominated with slaves.

As the years went on, Joseph Rainey's father was permitted by his master to work independently and save a little money. Using his accumulated funds, Edward Rainey purchased freedom for little Joseph and his family.

When President Lincoln was elected in 1860, 11 States seceded from the Union; South Carolina was the first. A civil war erupts.

Joseph Rainey, now 28 years of age, was conscripted, or drafted, to work on fortifications in Charleston. This was unacceptable to Joseph, and so, with his family, he escaped to St. George, Bermuda.

Madam Speaker, St. George is a small parish on the island of Bermuda. While there, Rainey undoubtedly became acquainted with my grandfather, James Peter Butterfield, born 1853, who lived his entire life in St. George.

On December 6, 1865, the 13th Amendment was added to the Constitution, ending slavery in America. 400,000 slaves in South Carolina are free: 37,000 in Charleston, 32,000 in Beaufort, 18,000 in Georgetown.

The same year, the Civil War ends. South Carolina desires to be readmitted to the Union. As a condition, South Carolina was required to adopt a constitution that repudiated secession, acknowledged the end of slavery and repudiated debts that the State and its White citizens had incurred.

The South Carolina Constitutional Convention convened on January 14, 1868. A very prominent delegate to the convention was Joseph H. Rainey. The convention's minutes, Madam Speaker, reflect that Rainey advocated for free public education for all South Carolina citizens. He advocated for relieving White landowners of their insurmountable debt that had accumulated during the war.

The convention was successful; a new constitution was adopted, and on July

9, 1868, South Carolina was readmitted to the Union. Joseph Rainey was recognized for his brilliance during the convention.

The following year, 1869, Congress passed the 15th Amendment granting the former slaves the right to vote and hold office. On February 3, 1870, the 15th Amendment was finally ratified by the States.

Joseph Rainey seized the opportunity; ran for Congress in the First District. Elected on December 12, 1870, Congressman Rainey remained a Member of this body until after President Rutherford B. Hayes ended Reconstruction, which gave rise to violence against African Americans.

Though Rainey was reelected in 1876, he did not seek office again, making him the longest-serving African-American Congressman during Reconstruction.

Madam Speaker, this is a remarkable story. I appreciate Mr. RICE, and Mr. CLYBURN, and the entire South Carolina delegation for offering this legislation to name the Post Office located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 264.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the distinguished whip of the House of Representatives.

□ 1615

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 264, which will designate the post office located on Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

I am proud to join with the bill's lead sponsor, Congressman TOM RICE, and the other members of the South Carolina congressional delegation in co-sponsoring this important legislation.

This action builds on our efforts in the last Congress to honor the life and legacy of Joseph Rainey by naming H-150, the former House Committee on Indian Affairs room in the Capitol, in his honor.

These are just two of the long-overdue actions needed to amplify the historical significance of the first African American to serve in the United States House of Representatives.

Congressman Rainey was a trailblazer whose story and place in history have been overlooked. As a former his-

tory teacher who believes knowing our history is instructive so that we don't repeat the mistakes of our past, I would like to share with you my fellow South Carolinian's legacy.

Joseph Rainey, as you heard, was born enslaved in 1832 in Georgetown, South Carolina. His father was able to buy his family's freedom with earnings he made as a barber. As a freedman living in Charleston, Rainey was conscripted by the Confederacy in 1862. Rather than fighting to preserve slavery, he and his family fled to Bermuda, where he worked as a barber until the end of the war.

Rainey returned to South Carolina after the Civil War and served, as you heard, as a delegate to the 1868 South Carolina Constitutional Convention. He was elected to the State senate in 1870. Later that year, he was elected to Congress in a special election and was sworn into Congress on December 12, 150 years ago, becoming the first Black to serve in the House of Representatives.

He was the first of several African-American Members of this body during Reconstruction, when the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments were enforced, however imperfectly, by the power of the Federal Government.

But Reconstruction was short-lived. Jim Crow laws and white supremacists dismantled multiracial democracy with voter suppression, nullifications, and violent insurrection. Federal troops were withdrawn from the South following widespread white supremacist violence during the 1876 election and the subsequent election of Rutherford B. Hayes as President.

Joseph Rainey spoke out against the removal of Federal protection of voting rights, but in 1878, he lost reelection to former Confederate officer John Smythe Richardson in a district that was, like South Carolina, majority Black.

Severe gerrymandering reduced the number of Black South Carolinians in Congress to one in the 1890s. When George Washington Murray lost his bid for reelection in 1897, South Carolina's representation in Congress was again all White and remained all White for the next 95 years.

Segregation and Black disenfranchisement were the law of the land until the 1960s. But thanks to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and its 1982 amendments, I was elected to this august body in 1992.

Today, Congress is still grappling with racial issues, voter suppression, and, as we witnessed last month, domestic terrorism.

It is fitting and proper that we are taking this step as we are celebrating Black History Month. I believe we would do well to learn some of the lessons of American history through Joseph Rainey's experiences, and I hope today's action will help illuminate his story and cause us all to reflect on his legacy. We must not allow the progress we have made toward racial equity

since the 1960s to retrogress, as it did after the 1860s.

To truly honor the contributions of Joseph Rainey and all African Americans, we must build on this progress by working together to address our country's longstanding racial inequities and fulfill the promise of liberty and justice for all.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close.

It is a real honor to be here today, and the distinguished whip is correct that this is long overdue, to recognize Joseph Rainey and his accomplishments.

He fought tirelessly for civil rights and education and opportunity. He fought for freedom for every working American in this country. To be here today in Black History Month to recognize his legacy and his legend, he will not be forgotten, and we ensure that today.

I hope that future generations of South Carolinians and Americans across the country can be inspired by his courageous leadership here in this House. I urge my colleagues to support this bill today.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I want to make sure that I mention my appreciation to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for the way they succinctly captured a great swath of American history over the period of time that followed Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 all the way up to the beginning of the Black Codes and the failing of Reconstruction, an era that held great hope for this country but did not come to pass and really was not evidenced until many, many decades later, as Mr. CLYBURN pointed out.

I am happy and honored to bring this measure forward. I want to thank the gentlewoman from South Carolina for all of her efforts and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) for their work advancing this.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge the passage of H.R. 264. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 264.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JIM RAMSTAD POST OFFICE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 772) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South

in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 772

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JIM RAMSTAD POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 772 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, and I hope I am pronouncing that correctly, as the Jim Ramstad Post Office.

Jim Ramstad was born in Jamestown, North Dakota, on May 6, 1946. He was a graduate of the University of Minnesota and the George Washington University Law School, as well as a member of the Army Reserve from 1968 until 1974.

Jim became a State senator in 1981. There, he began shaping his personal and political life around the principles of recovery, honesty, resilience, transparency, and accountability.

Jim Ramstad would then go on to serve in the Minnesota State Senate for 10 years before ultimately becoming a Member of this body, the United States House of Representatives, representing Minnesota's Third District.

In the Congress, he was a consensus builder, championing the bipartisan policies needed to reduce discrimination against those suffering from mental health and addiction problems.

His signature legislation, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Treatment Act, was enacted in 2008 just before Jim retired from Congress. After retiring, he served as a fellow at Harvard University and as an adviser to Minnesota's Hazelden treatment center.

Representative Ramstad lived the final 39 years of his life in absolute and

complete sobriety. His story is the story of recovery, impacted in a way that many of us will not understand, but impacting the lives of Minnesotans and Americans. He died November 5, 2020, after battling Parkinson's disease for some time.

Naming a post office for Jim Ramstad is an entirely appropriate measure, given his distinguished political career and contributions to his State and to his country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 772, a bill that would name a Minnesota post office after Jim Ramstad.

From 1968 to 1974, Jim Ramstad served as a member of the Army Reserve. In 1981, he was elected to the Minnesota State Senate, where he would go on to serve for 10 years. He was then elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he represented Minnesota's Third Congressional District.

During his time in Congress, he strove to reduce discrimination against those suffering from mental health and addiction problems. He retired from Congress in 2009 and went on to serve as a fellow at Harvard University and as an adviser to Minnesota's Hazelden treatment center.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill honoring an inspiring American leader that proves that everyone deserves a second chance.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS).

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 772, to designate the post office in Wayzata, Minnesota, on the shores of Lake Minnetonka as the Jim Ramstad Post Office.

Congressman Ramstad spent 10 years representing the 45th District in the Minnesota Legislature and 18 years representing Minnesota's Third District in this Chamber. As the current Representative for Minnesota's Third, I am humbled to have followed in the footsteps of such a gentleman, public servant, and statesman.

Throughout his life in public service and throughout his entire life, Jim led with principle, with compassion, and with grace. His battle with and recovery from alcoholism gave voice to millions of Americans facing the very same challenge and illuminated every aspect of his life and his service.

From the statehouse to this House, Jim embodied the spirit of honesty, resilience, transparency, and accountability. He was a noted consensus seeker and a champion of bipartisan policies to reduce discrimination against those suffering from mental health challenges and addiction. His signature

legislation, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Treatment Act, was enacted in 2008 just before his retirement from Congress.

□ 1630

Congressman Ramstad will go on to continue his service as a fellow at Harvard University, and as adviser to Minnesota's Hazelden treatment center. He lived the final 39 years of his life in sobriety.

Congressman Ramstad passed away on November 5, 2020, after a battle with Parkinson's disease.

Naming a post office in Wayzata is a small gesture to commemorate the passing of a giant of Minnesota politics. But as former Minnesota State Senator and Jim's former district director, Paul Anderson, told me: “Jim loved Wayzata, and Wayzata always loved Jim back.”

So I send my love to Jim's wife, Kathryn, and to all of his family and friends and colleagues who continue to mourn his loss.

May his memory be for a blessing. May his spirit and legacy of bipartisanship—and I note that Jim was a Republican and I am a Democrat—inspire this Congress. May his name grace the post office in the town he loved and the town that loved him back for generations to come.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) for his leadership on this effort, for his leadership in the House, and for reminding me, especially, that the post office will reside in Wayzata, appropriately.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side. I urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 772.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOSE HERNANDEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 813) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Jose Hernandez Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 813

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOSE HERNANDEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050

Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, shall be known and designated as the "Jose Hernandez Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jose Hernandez Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 813, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the Jose Hernandez Post Office Building.

Jose Hernandez was born in 1971, in Arizona. He enlisted in the Army after graduating from Arizona State University and was stationed in Germany. In 2003, he deployed to Iraq for 1 year. When he was discharged from the Army, Mr. Hernandez moved to New Mexico with his wife and continued his career in public service at the U.S. Postal Service.

New Mexicans on his mail route remember the days when they were in a rush and Mr. Hernandez would quickly go through his mailbag just to get them their mail before they had to rush on their way. And they remembered the slower days when he would join them for a short chat or simply sit for a moment to enjoy the weather.

In April of 2019, letter carrier Jose Hernandez was tragically killed while protecting a mother in an argument with her son. Mr. Hernandez intervened to try to peacefully end the dispute, but was, instead, shot and killed by the young man.

Mailboxes along his former route quickly became memorials, while his colleagues made their own memorial at his former post office.

So naming a post office after this distinguished public servant, who gave his life in the line of duty trying to protect an innocent woman, I think is the very least that this body can do.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 813, a bill that would name an Albuquerque, New Mexico, post office after Jose Hernandez.

Mr. Hernandez enlisted in the Army after graduating from Arizona State University and was then stationed in Germany and deployed to Iraq in 2003.

After his discharge from the Army, Jose Hernandez moved to New Mexico and began working at the U.S. Postal Service as a civil engineer and letter carrier.

In 2009, he was tragically killed while protecting a mother in a domestic dispute. He intervened to try to peacefully end the fight, but was shot by the woman's son. His hometown mourns this tragic loss.

I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation honoring a true American hero.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND).

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jose Hernandez, a beloved letter carrier and local hero who was killed on the job in 2019, while trying to resolve an argument along his route.

Residents who live along his route remember Jose as the type of letter carrier who would go above and beyond the call of duty. His shocking death was devastating for our community, and more than a year later, we continue to mourn the loss.

To honor his legacy, I introduced a bill to rename his old workplace in his honor.

Jose Hernandez has served proudly in the Army. He has four beautiful children and a loving wife, Nikki. He served the Albuquerque area U.S. Postal Service for 12 years.

Our letter carriers and postal workers shouldn't have to worry about their safety when they go to work. Those who will see Jose's name on the Five Points Post Office will remember him as the hero that he was who went above and beyond his duty.

For these reasons and many more, I am thankful first for the entire New Mexico delegation for their support, and for Chairwoman MALONEY's and Chairman RASKIN's swift work to move my bill that will name the post office at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 813 honoring Mr. Hernandez.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side. I thank the gentlewoman from New Mexico for being here as the Secretary-Designate of the Interior Department. This is a confirmation day. So to be at both places at the same time is very important, and I think it underscores her real heartfelt appreciation with respect to this legislation and its passage.

Having said that, I urge passage of H.R. 813, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 813.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 208) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 208

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, shall be known and designated as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris Post Office.

Smitty Harris entered the Air Force on January 2, 1951, and served through the rank of sergeant before being commissioned. He retired from the Air Force in 1979 as a colonel.

In his career, he flew fighter aircraft and was an instructor and operations officer and a faculty member at the Air War College.

On April 4, 1965, just a week before his 36th birthday, he was on a combat mission over North Vietnam to bomb the Thanh Hoa Bridge.

Smitty was successful in destroying the bridge, but his F-105 fighter plane was hit and Smitty was forced to bail out over North Vietnam. He was captured immediately and spent the next 8 years as a prisoner of war in various prisons, where he was confined, mistreated, and tortured.

He is credited with introducing the tap code to POWs so that they could communicate surreptitiously between their cell walls.

During his distinguished Air Force career, Smitty earned two Silver Medals, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars for valor, two Purple Hearts, and two Air Medals as well.

Smitty retired from the Air Force in August of 1979, and entered directly into the University of Mississippi School of Law, joining the Mississippi bar in December of 1981. His post-Air Force employment included banking law and marketing. In October of 2012, Colonel Harris was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Air Force Association.

Tupelo, Mississippi, is the home to Smitty and to Louise, their two daughters, and a son who was born in Okinawa shortly after Smitty was shot down. Their spouses, as well as others in their family, reside in Tupelo.

Madam Speaker, we are urging today an extra honor for Smitty Harris, a true American, by naming this postal facility after him.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 208, a bill to name a Mississippi post office for Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris.

Smitty Harris enlisted in the Air Force in 1951, and would later go on to serve for 28 years as a pilot instructor, operations officer, and faculty member at the Air War College.

In 1965, while on a combat mission over North Vietnam, Smitty's F-105 was struck and he was forced to bail out over North Vietnam where he was captured.

He spent the next 8 years as a prisoner of war, where he was confined in various prisons and tortured. During his time in prison, he is known for creating the tap code, which POWs used to communicate secretly between cells.

After nearly 8 years as a prisoner of war, he returned home to the U.S. and to his loving family. His son called him his hero and role model. But the truth is, he is every American's hero.

He has earned numerous medals and accolades for heroic service on behalf our Nation. Those include: two Silver Star Medals, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars for valor, two Purple Hearts, and two Air Medals.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation in recognition of this great American hero, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY).

□ 1645

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for allowing me to speak today in support of H.R. 208 to designate a post office for Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, my friend.

Madam Speaker, he served with one of our colleagues and friends here, Mr. Sam Johnson, and was in the Hanoi Hilton with him for much of the time they shared together. I have this long speech written, but I want to talk about who Carlyle Smitty Harris is.

He is Smitty to all his friends. You would never know that he was a lawyer; you would never know that he was a pilot; you would never know that he was a retired colonel. He is such a gentleman and such a role model for our entire community. His family are key people in the Tupelo area.

Smitty was shot down and spent almost 8 years in the Hanoi Hilton. During that time, he had learned many, many years ago, from a sergeant, about a tap code they used to communicate in World War II. Being one of the first 10 or 12 prisoners in the Hanoi Hilton, they would separate them so that they couldn't communicate. And Smitty taught this to all the other members when they came in so that they could communicate when they were separated and segregated as prisoners.

You would think that 8 years serving in the Hanoi Hilton that you would be bitter, that you would hate humanity, that when you were tortured, you would want to be tortured or be mean to others, but not Smitty Harris. Colonel Harris is a gentleman of all gentlemen. He took it, and now he uses his faith and all the strength that he gained from all those years being away from the people and the things that he loved, and he is not necessarily happy about it, but he is so content with his life, and he passes on the lessons that he learned.

I think back when I went to the governor's mansion many years ago, and I had my—at the time—17-year-old son. Smitty spent about 2½ hours on the tour bus with my son talking to him about life, about what it meant to be a man.

Madam Speaker, there are not enough words to describe what Smitty Harris has done for this Nation. He is a true hero, just like our former colleague and friend, Sam Johnson, was. These guys gave their best to this Nation during the Vietnam war during their captivities, but he continues to give to his community even today.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for his remarks, and I thank him for his service, as well. The distinguished gentleman also is a Major General of the Army National Guard Element, Joint Force in Mississippi. I don't take that lightly. I appreciate all he has done, and I appreciate him calling the name of Sam Johnson, who I served with previously in this body.

Madam Speaker, I went to the Hanoi Hilton as a tourist, and stood there in pain looking at what he and Senator McCain, and so many others went through in that facility. I mean, it just brings you back to Earth. And sometimes we take lightly the service. Sometimes, we take lightly the fact that some of our servicemen and women were captured. And sometimes, we take lightly the fact that war can happen at any time. And when it does happen, we hope that it will continue to always bring out the best in all of us.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to stand here and to give these remarks from our side of the aisle about Smitty. I talk about him as if I know him, but when I read about him, I feel like I do know him.

My thanks to the gentleman from Mississippi and the gentlewoman from South Carolina for leading this discussion on the other side.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 208.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. CASTEN. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL IN THE DIGITAL ERA ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 546) to regulate monitoring of electronic communications between an incarcerated person in a Bureau of Prisons facility and that person's attorney or other legal representative, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 546

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act”.

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN AN INCARCERATED PERSON AND THE PERSON'S ATTORNEY.

(a) PROHIBITION ON MONITORING.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall create a program or system, or modify any program or system that exists on the date of enactment of this Act, through which an incarcerated person sends or receives an electronic communication, to exclude from monitoring the contents of any privileged electronic communication. In the case that the Attorney General creates a program or system in accordance with this subsection, the Attorney General shall, upon implementing such system, discontinue using any program or system that exists on the date of enactment of this Act through which an incarcerated person sends or receives a privileged electronic communication, except that any program or system that exists on such date may continue to be used for any other electronic communication.

(b) RETENTION OF CONTENTS.—A program or system or a modification to a program or system under subsection (a) may allow for retention by the Bureau of Prisons of, and access by an incarcerated person to, the contents of electronic communications, including the contents of privileged electronic communications, of the person until the date on which the person is released from prison.

(c) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE.—Attorney-client privilege, and the protections and limitations associated with such privilege (including the crime fraud exception), applies to electronic communications sent or received through the program or system established or modified under subsection (a).

(d) ACCESSING RETAINED CONTENTS.—Contents retained under subsection (b) may only be accessed by a person other than the incarcerated person for whom such contents are retained under the following circumstances:

(1) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may only access retained contents if necessary for the purpose of creating and maintaining the program or system, or any modification to the program or system, through which an incarcerated person sends or receives electronic communications. The Attorney General may not review retained contents that are accessed pursuant to this paragraph.

(2) INVESTIGATIVE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—

(A) WARRANT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Retained contents may only be accessed by an investigative or law enforcement officer pursuant to a warrant issued by a court pursuant to the procedures described in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

(ii) APPROVAL.—No application for a warrant may be made to a court without the express approval of a United States Attorney or an Assistant Attorney General.

(B) PRIVILEGED INFORMATION.—

(i) REVIEW.—Before retained contents may be accessed pursuant to a warrant obtained under subparagraph (A), such contents shall be reviewed by a United States Attorney to ensure that privileged electronic communications are not accessible.

(ii) BARRING PARTICIPATION.—A United States Attorney who reviews retained contents pursuant to clause (i) shall be barred from—

(I) participating in a legal proceeding in which an individual who sent or received an electronic communication from which such contents are retained under subsection (b) is a defendant; or

(II) sharing the retained contents with an attorney who is participating in such a legal proceeding.

(3) MOTION TO SUPPRESS.—In a case in which retained contents have been accessed in violation of this subsection, a court may suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to such contents upon motion of the defendant.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

(1) the term “agent of an attorney or legal representative” means any person employed by or contracting with an attorney or legal representative, including law clerks, interns, investigators, paraprofessionals, and administrative staff;

(2) the term “contents” has the meaning given such term in 2510 of title 18, United States Code;

(3) the term “electronic communication” has the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code, and includes the Trust Fund Limited Inmate Computer System;

(4) the term “monitoring” means accessing the contents of an electronic communication at any time after such communication is sent;

(5) the term “incarcerated person” means any individual in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service who has been charged with or convicted of an offense against the United States, including such an individual who is imprisoned in a State institution; and

(6) the term “privileged electronic communication” means—

(A) any electronic communication between an incarcerated person and a potential, current, or former attorney or legal representative of such a person; and

(B) any electronic communication between an incarcerated person and the agent of an attorney or legal representative described in subparagraph (A).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the first thing I would like to do is thank our distinguished chair of the Democratic Caucus, Mr. JEFFRIES, for working with us and moving forward on this bill, along with the chairman of the full committee, Mr. NADLER.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act requires the Federal Bureau of Prisons to establish a system that ensures the confidentiality of all privileged electronic communications between incarcerated individuals and their attorneys or legal representatives.

H.R. 546 is identical to bipartisan legislation sponsored by Representative

HAKEEM JEFFRIES last Congress. Last September, the House approved this bill by voice vote. However, the Senate failed to take up the measure prior to adjournment. As we move forward today, I hope that the House will approve this bill with broad support, again, so that the Senate will take swift action and President Biden can sign this much-needed proposal into law.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 addresses important constitutional protections for criminal defendants, and all of these I support. The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides the right to counsel, to assist in the defense of those accused of criminal offenses. In order to represent their clients in an effective manner, defense attorneys must have the ability to communicate candidly with their clients.

The attorney-client privilege, which keeps communications between individuals and their attorneys confidential, exists in part to foster open communications. This privilege is a fundamental component of the effective assistance of counsel guaranteed by the Constitution. Of course, this privilege does not protect communications between a client and an attorney made in furtherance of or in order to cover up a crime or fraud, also known as the crime-fraud exception. We understand that.

Outside of any custody setting, defendants are less constrained in their ability to have candid conversations with their attorneys. Generally, out-of-custody defendants can go to their attorneys' offices, speak with them freely on the phone, or send written or electronic correspondence without fear of interference or monitoring. To an extent, in-custody defendants also have these protections.

For example, in the Federal system, Bureau of Prisons' regulations ensure that inmates can meet with their attorneys without auditory supervision. Current regulations also allow confidential phone calls and letters between inmates and their attorneys. But these same protections do not apply to email communications for the nearly 152,000 individuals currently in Federal custody, including those in pretrial detention who have not been convicted of any crime.

I know that my colleagues can see that that is definitively a denial of the civil rights, civil liberties, and the criminal justice rights that these individuals should have access to.

H.R. 546 would ensure that all communications between attorneys and their clients remain confidential, including email.

Madam Speaker, over a decade ago, the Federal Bureau of Prisons recognized the growing importance of email, which is important in providing efficient and swift communications between inmates and individuals on the outside.

Since 2009, Bureau of Prisons' inmates have been able to access emails

through a system known as TRULINCS. However, TRULINCS requires inmates and their contacts to consent to monitoring of all communications, even email exchanges between inmates and their attorneys. That, I think we all understand, is unfair.

Madam Speaker, during the last decade, email has grown rapidly and is the primary means of communication between inmates and their attorneys. During the current pandemic, emails have become even more important given how difficult it is for attorneys to meet with their clients.

Without appropriate safeguards, the Bureau of Prisons risks severely hindering the effective representation of inmates by limiting attorney-client privilege for electronic communications. Therefore, H.R. 546 would require the Bureau to implement an adequate system to ensure that these attorney-client communications remain confidential—again, a constitutional provision or principle of the right to counsel.

H.R. 546 also includes additional protections, including the requirement of the contents of electronic communications be destroyed when an inmate is released from prison, as well as authorizing the suppression of evidence obtained or derived from access to information that is in violation of the provisions set forth in the bill.

Madam Speaker, this is an important bill. Its time is now. I commend our colleague, Representative JEFFRIES, for his effort and leadership in developing this bipartisan legislation. This proposal has already received broad support by the House during the last Congress, and now we must act swiftly to see it enacted into law, moving to the United States Senate, and seeing the United States Senate act quickly for it to be signed by President Joe Biden.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in support of this bill today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 546, the bipartisan “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act,” reintroduced by Congressman JEFFRIES of New York, legislation that ensures that email communications between people in Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) custody and their legal teams are protected with the same privilege as legal visits, letters, and phone calls.

This legislation was reported out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously in the 116th Congress and was passed in the House twice—once as part of a COVID relief bill and later without objection on the House floor.

The principles of justice, fairness, and due process upon which our legal system is built necessitate confidentiality between the accused and their defense counsel.

Attorney client privilege is one of the oldest privileges for confidential communications and has been an important part of the American legal system for hundreds of years.

This privilege is critical when clients are in custody, and the form of communication—

whether it be in person, by letter, by telephone, or by email—should have no bearing on that protection.

Currently, individuals held in BOP facilities are uniformly denied the ability to have privileged communications with their lawyers through TRULINCS, the only email system available to them.

In order to use the BOP system, incarcerated individuals must sign a waiver acknowledging that their communications may be monitored.

Without signing the waiver, they cannot use the email system, cutting off any opportunity to communicate electronically.

The need for access to privileged email is long overdue, and it is more critical than ever today.

As the COVID pandemic has raged across the country and spread through detention facilities, BOP has restricted in-person visits, and unmonitored calls and legal mail are more difficult to use.

But incarcerated clients’ need to have access to their lawyers is undiminished, and in many instances is heightened by the delays and fears brought on by the pandemic.

Email is the safest and most cost-effective means of communicating.

The Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act remedies many of these concerns by striking the right balance between the government’s limited interest in accessing certain email communications with a warrant and the need to properly protect communications subject to the attorney-client privilege.

This legislation will only require the Department of Justice to change procedures concerning attorney-client communications and still maintains the ability for United States Attorneys to access other emails.

Privileged communication is the cornerstone of attorney-client relationships and inseparable from the due process rights on which the U.S. legal system is founded.

It is past time for BOP to bring its policies into the 21st century and ensure that electronic communications between people in custody and their legal teams are protected.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 546, the “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act.”

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act.

This bill will modernize our criminal justice system by extending attorney-client privilege to electronic communication sent or received through the Bureau of Prisons’ email system. This will ensure that incarcerated individuals can communicate with their attorneys efficiently and privately, as it should be.

Under the legislation, the Bureau of Prisons will be prohibited from monitoring privileged email communications between incarcerated individuals and that individual’s attorney.

The attorney-client privilege is a vital component of our legal system that ensures a criminal defendant has an effective advocate in the courtroom. Emails between incarcerated individuals and their attorneys should fall

under the attorney-client protections, but currently, that is not the case.

This bill will protect the rights of incarcerated men and women to speak openly and honestly with their attorneys via email, without fear that the prosecution is monitoring those communications. Other methods of communication, such as in-person meetings and letters, can be particularly burdensome and time-consuming. Even if an attorney is near the incarcerated client, it can take hours to travel to a detention facility and visit with the client.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 requires the Attorney General to ensure that BOP’s email system excludes the contents of electronic communications between an incarcerated person and his or her attorney from the current email monitoring process.

The bill stipulates that the protections and limitations associated with the attorney-client privilege, including the crime-fraud exception, apply to electronic communications sent or received through the BOP email system. The BOP will be allowed to retain electronic communications until the incarcerated person is released, but the bill specifies that the contents may only be accessed under very limited circumstances.

Finally, H.R. 546 allows a court to suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to the retained emails if the emails were accessed in violation of the act.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 546, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the sponsor and author of this bill, the chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

□ 1700

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman, my good friend from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), for yielding and for her tremendous leadership on so many different criminal justice issues, including with respect to this particular piece of legislation. I thank the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for his support as well.

I rise to support H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act, a critical bipartisan bill to protect the constitutional right to effective representation. This legislation passed the House last Congress, and I urge my colleagues to pass it once again today.

The Sixth Amendment to the Constitution provides that in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have the assistance of counsel for his or her defense. An attorney must be fully informed about the facts of the case in order to effectively represent a client

and provide the best possible legal advice and guidance. That is why confidential communication between attorneys and their clients is so critical and why the attorney-client privilege must be protected.

In *Lanza v. New York*, the Supreme Court stated that even in a jail, or perhaps especially there, the relationships which the law has endowed with particularized confidentiality must continue to receive unceasing protection.

There are nearly 124,000 individuals currently in BOP custody, many of whom are in pretrial detention and have not been convicted of a crime. In our system, defendants, American citizens, are innocent until proven guilty. Like any person involved in a criminal proceeding, these individuals who are incarcerated must be able to confidentially communicate with their attorneys.

The bipartisan Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act would enable incarcerated individuals to communicate with their legal representatives privately, safely, and efficiently by prohibiting the Bureau of Prisons from monitoring privileged electronic communications.

While BOP regulations do protect the confidentiality of in-person attorney visits, phone calls, and traditional mail, no such protections exist in the context of email communications sent through the BOP's electronic mail system. This system, known as TRULINCS, has become the easiest, fastest, and most efficient method of communication available to incarcerated individuals and their attorneys.

Let's consider the alternatives. Even a brief client visit can take hours when you factor in travel and wait times. Confidential phone calls are perhaps useful, but they are subject to time limitations and can be difficult to schedule even for urgent legal matters. Postal mail must first be opened and inspected by staff for physical contraband, which can significantly extend the time it takes for the communication to reach an incarcerated individual.

These delays should be unnecessary in a prison system that permits electronic communications and would be available if the attorney-client privilege was consistently applied.

To address this serious problem, H.R. 546 would require the Attorney General to ensure that the BOP email system excludes from monitoring the contents of electronic communications between an incarcerated person and their attorney.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Ms. JACKSON LEE, Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) an additional 1 minute.

Mr. JEFFRIES. The BOP will be permitted to retain the contents of these messages until the incarcerated person is released, but they would be accessible only under limited circumstances.

The bill is supported by a wide variety of groups, including the American

Bar Association, ACLU, Americans for Prosperity, Dream Corps, Due Process Institute, National Action Network, Prison Fellowship, Right on Crime, Faith and Freedom Coalition, FAMM, Federal public and community defenders organizations, and so many others.

I want to thank all the sponsors of this bill, most particularly Representatives VAN TAYLOR, JERRY NADLER, TOM MCCLINTOCK, DON BACON, NANCY MACE, and SHEILA JACKSON LEE, as well as DAN CRENSHAW and DUSTY JOHNSON. This has truly been a bipartisan journey.

Our criminal justice system depends on the attorney-client privilege to ensure effective representation. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 546.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

I wanted to say my compliments to the gentleman from New York in pursuit of this bill and the things he spoke to about the presumption of innocence and the right to counsel, among those sacred core rights that our Constitution guarantees to every individual in this country. This important bipartisan bill is preservative of that.

That is what we do in this Chamber. That is what this Congress should always do. So my compliments to the gentleman from New York and the cosponsors on this piece of legislation. I encourage my fellow Members to support it.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Let me thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for his collegial response and his very important remarks on collaboration for important legislation like this.

Let me also thank the distinguished gentleman from New York for finding an Achilles' heel that would really and continues to undermine the true sense of attorney-client privilege and to respect that privilege, whether you are in custody or not, and also recognizes the increasing utilization of the digital world to file briefs, to make arguments, and, of course, to find that divide between those in-custody inmates incarcerated and those that are not in custody. We are now moving to extensive virtual court proceedings.

As we well know, individuals in custody are making a number of efforts to prove their innocence. They are appealing. They are seeking new trials. They, too, have rights that should be respected under both the Criminal Code and the Constitution.

So, again, I thank the gentleman for his thoughtfulness and all the bipartisan cosponsors that he has.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 would ensure that the attorney-client privilege, again, is safeguarded in all communications between criminal defendants and their attorneys. This bipartisan legislation addresses an issue that is

essential to the fair administration of the criminal justice system.

During this ongoing pandemic, this measure has become even more urgent when there is even more reliance on electronic communications between attorneys and incarcerated individuals.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 546.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PUERTO RICO RECOVERY ACCURACY IN DISCLOSURES ACT OF 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1192) to impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as "PROMESA").

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1192

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA".

SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE BY PROFESSIONAL PERSONS SEEKING APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION UNDER SECTION 316 OR 317 OF PROMESA.

(a) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), no attorney, accountant, appraiser, auctioneer, agent, consultant, or other professional person may be compensated under section 316 or 317 of that Act (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) unless prior to making a request for compensation, the professional person has submitted a verified statement conforming to the disclosure requirements of rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure setting forth the connection of the professional person with—

(A) the debtor;

(B) any creditor;

(C) any other party in interest, including any attorney or accountant;

(D) the Financial Oversight and Management Board established in accordance with section 101 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2121); and

(E) any person employed by the Oversight Board described in subparagraph (D).

(2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—A professional person that submits a statement under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) supplement the statement with any additional relevant information that becomes known to the person; and

(B) file annually a notice confirming the accuracy of the statement.

(b) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States Trustee shall review each verified statement submitted pursuant to subsection (a) and may file with the court comments on such verified statements before the professionals filing such statements seek compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177).

(2) OBJECTION.—The United States Trustee may object to compensation applications filed under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) that fail to satisfy the requirements of subsection (e).

(3) RIGHT TO BE HEARD.—Each person described in section 1109 of title 11, United States Code, may appear and be heard on any issue in a case under this section.

(c) JURISDICTION.—The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction of all cases under this section.

(d) RETROACTIVITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a court has entered an order approving compensation under a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), each professional person subject to the order shall file a verified statement in accordance with subsection (a) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) NO DELAY.—A court may not delay any proceeding in connection with a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164) pending the filing of a verified statement under paragraph (1).

(e) LIMITATION ON COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), in connection with the review and approval of professional compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177), the court may deny allowance of compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses, accruing after the date of the enactment of this Act of a professional person if the professional person—

(A) has failed to file statements of connections required by subsection (a) or has filed inadequate statements of connections;

(B) except as provided in paragraph (3), is on or after the date of enactment of this Act not a disinterested person, as defined in section 101 of title 11, United States Code; or

(C) except as provided in paragraph (3), represents, or holds an interest adverse to, the interest of the estate with respect to the matter on which such professional person is employed.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making a determination under paragraph (1), the court may take into consideration whether the services and expenses are in the best interests of creditors and the estate.

(3) COMMITTEE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.—An attorney or accountant described in section 1103(b) of title 11, United States Code, shall be deemed to have violated paragraph (1) if the attorney or accountant violates section 1103(b) of title 11, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as I always do, let me thank the sponsor of this legislation for her leadership, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), and all of those who have supported this important leadership bill.

H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy In Disclosures Act, or PRRADA, is commonsense legislation that would promote greater transparency and integrity with respect to the ongoing financial reorganization of Puerto Rico.

In response to dire fiscal issues facing Puerto Rico at the time, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, in 2016. That legislation established a financial oversight and management board with control over Puerto Rico's budget, laws, financial plans, and regulations and the authority to retain professionals to assist the board in executing its responsibilities.

Though largely patterned on Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, PROMESA did not incorporate all facets of Chapter 11 and other relevant provisions of the code. Importantly, this includes the code's mandatory disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest that professional persons seeking to be retained in a bankruptcy case must make to the court prior to their retention.

This bill would close that loophole by conditioning the compensation of professional persons retained under PROMESA upon certain disclosures similar to those required under the Bankruptcy Code.

Additionally, the bill would require the United States Trustee to review these disclosures and submit comments in response to the court and also authorize the United States Trustee to object to compensation requested by the professionals.

Finally, H.R. 1192 would allow courts to deny compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses if the professional person did not comply with the disclosure requirement, was not a disinterested person, or represented or held an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate.

I thank Ms. VELÁZQUEZ for her leadership in championing this bill and for her relentless dedication, which we all have witnessed, to ensuring that the people of Puerto Rico receive the fair, efficient, and transparent restructuring process they deserve.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which was passed out of the House last Congress by a unanimous vote.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Judiciary, Committee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1192, the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA Act," which conditions compensation of professional persons retained under the congressionally passed "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act" ("PROMESA") upon the applicant providing certain disclosures similar to those required under Bankruptcy Code section 327.

In response to dire fiscal issues facing Puerto Rico at the time, Congress passed Pub. L. 114-187, the "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act" or "PROMESA" in 2016, legislation I strongly supported and cosponsored.

The Act established the Financial Oversight and Management Board (Board), a fiscal control board comprised of seven members that would have control over Puerto Rico's budget, laws, financial plans, and regulations.

It empowered the board to propose a budget for Puerto Rico and restructure its obligations owed to bondholders, estimated to be \$6.5 billion, and other creditors.

Although largely patterned on chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, PROMESA did not incorporate all facets of chapter 11 and other relevant provisions of the Code.

For example, although the Board is authorized to retain and compensate professional persons in connection with its efforts to reorganize Puerto Rico, PROMESA does not include certain restrictions that the Bankruptcy Code requires for such purposes.

For example, Section 327 of the Bankruptcy Code, unlike PROMESA, authorizes professional persons, such as attorneys, financial advisors, appraisers, and others, to be retained in connection with the administration of a bankruptcy case provided they meet the following conditions: first, such a person must not hold or represent an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate; and second, the professional must be a "disinterested person."

As I indicated at the outset, H.R. 1192, the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA," conditions compensation of professional persons retained under PROMESA upon the applicant providing certain disclosures similar to those required under Bankruptcy Code section 327.

In addition, it would require the United States Trustee to review such disclosures and submit comments in response to the court as well as authorize the United States trustee to object to compensation requested by professionals. Further, the measure would apply retroactively to professionals who have previously been awarded compensation.

Finally, H.R. 1192 would authorize the court to deny allowance of compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses accruing after the bill's enactment date if the professional person did not comply with the disclosure requirement, was not a disinterested person, or represented or held an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 1192, the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act.

In 2016, Puerto Rico was experiencing significant financial pressures brought on by sizable debt and related obligations. In response to Puerto Rico's financial crisis, Congress enacted the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act of 2016. The 2016 law established a bankruptcy mechanism for Puerto Rico to address its obligations.

Like the general bankruptcy law, the 2016 law enables bankruptcy professionals, like accountants, consultants, and lawyers, to apply for payment for their services upon court approval. But the 2016 law omitted disclosure requirements that apply to compensated professionals in proceedings under the general Bankruptcy Code, title 11 of the United States Code, pursuant to rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

Most significantly, the gap in the 2016 law created a potential for undisclosed compensation terms and undiscovered conflicts of interest vis-a-vis parties of interest for professionals serving in Puerto Rico's bankruptcy.

To address this concern, this bill applies the disclosure requirements of rule 2014(a) to professionals serving in connection with Puerto Rico's bankruptcy and seeking compensation for those services.

The bill also requires oversight of the disclosures that bankruptcy professionals make.

This bill's disclosure and oversight requirements increase the likelihood that conflicts of interest will be caught and timely addressed before compensation decisions are made.

Taken as a whole, this added transparency will benefit important interests, such as those of creditors and taxpayers—and ultimately, of Puerto Rico itself.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1715

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), the author of this legislation and also a champion, as all Members of the United States Congress know, during the very trying and difficult times of our friends in Puerto Rico. It is her voice that has been the most singularly powerful in their advocacy, along with her wonderful colleague, the distinguished representative, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1192. I was proud to introduce this bill with bipartisan support in the House.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI and Chairman JERRY NADLER for bringing this legislation to the floor, and Mr. BISHOP, the ranking member of the subcommittee, and Sen-

ator BOB MENENDEZ for introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

The Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021, or PRRADA, eliminates a double standard currently facing Puerto Rico. Under U.S. Code and Federal bankruptcy procedure, any conflicts of interest, or even the perception of such conflict, between those working on the bankruptcy and the debtor are required to be disclosed. However, a loophole in the current law prevents this requirement from being extended to the people of Puerto Rico.

In 2016, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, to set up an orderly bankruptcy process to restructure its debt, stimulate economic development, and put the island on a path to financial recovery. This bill will extend current U.S. law, requiring disclosures of conflicts of interest to Puerto Rico, thereby improving transparency and restoring confidence in the island's future.

Puerto Ricans should be confident that the board's bankruptcy advisers do not have their thumb on the scale to favor certain debts where they have a self-interest. This bipartisan bill ensures integrity of the PROMESA process.

While we can have different opinions on how effectively the oversight board is carrying out its mission, one thing should be clear: The island's residents should be entitled to the same rights and protections as any debtor on the mainland.

Once more, I would like to thank Chairman NADLER, the staff, and the bipartisan cosponsors of the bill. I strongly encourage all Members to vote "yes" on this critical piece of legislation. I also would like to recognize the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN), who is a cosponsor of the bill.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act, H.R. 1192.

Representative VELÁZQUEZ and myself have proposed this bipartisan initiative in the last two Congresses, having achieved passage in the House during the last session. I think Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ is very thoughtful in terms of how important this is and the effects on PROMESA regarding this bill.

We support this bill as an important component in ensuring the restructuring process under PROMESA, and it looks out for Puerto Rico's interests.

This legislation requires any counsel and professional personnel that the financial oversight board may hire to work on a title III case for the restructuring of Puerto Rico's debt to submit verified disclosures of their connections with the debtor, creditors, or persons employed by the oversight board prior to being compensated.

These provisions extend the same requirements to decisions about the hiring of personnel for the restructuring as are imposed on such personnel under existing bankruptcy rules. I think it is important to have the same kind of rules for those people who are going to be managing, as we speak, those kinds of negotiations.

Our intention is not to exclude any people with expertise and knowledge about Puerto Rico's fiscal transactions from being resources in the restructuring process, but I think it is essential that any such connection be clear and known so that such persons' qualifications and the role they are going to be playing can be better evaluated.

Conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest, can be best avoided if there are accountability and transparency during the process. This bill would allow that to happen.

This bill would require that such personnel must disclose in detail their participation and involvement with any entity involved in the issuance of Puerto Rico's debt and in any claims involving Puerto Rico's debt, informing the identity of each one.

Anyone who is serving in the board—and I repeat, anyone who is serving in the board—working to inform its decisions, or representing it before the title III court, must have the trust of all parties that they are committed to defending the interests of Puerto Rico to the best of their ability in accordance to the law and justice.

A lack of transparency in personnel decisions creates a lack of confidence and distrust. Learning that someone was involved in the business of one of the parties in the case, only after they are named and working on the case, does not create assurance of their commitment to the best interests of Puerto Rico or even managing the debt.

Our goal must be to reach the day that we will no longer need the provisions of PROMESA or the fiscal oversight board, and we can dedicate ourselves to rebuild our economy and provide for growth. But until that happens, we must demand that those instruments created by PROMESA be accountable and transparent in their processes. Anything else should be unacceptable.

That is the reason this bill, H.R. 1192, is important, and I ask my colleagues to support and pass this bill.

Madam Speaker, I say thank you to the Congresswoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) for this bill and for allowing this initiative to be a bipartisan one.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico, and I thank the gentlewomen from Texas and New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, let me indicate again, this is a very vital initiative to continue to help in Puerto Rico's recovery. Let me thank the gentlewoman from New York for her leadership and, of course, the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico. This partnership and bipartisan collaboration with the other cosponsors is very crucial as we continue to work as a Congress to do our job for the people of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 1192 closes a loophole under current law by establishing disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest in the bankruptcy process under PROMESA. In doing so, this legislation promotes transparency and accountability in the Puerto Rico restructuring process.

Again, I thank my colleague, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ from New York, the author of the bill, for her leadership on this issue, and Mr. NADLER and his work.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense measure. This, of course, along with the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico, is helping the people of Puerto Rico, our neighbors and our fellow Americans.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1192.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 208) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite

102, in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office", on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 15, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 32]

YEAS—406

Adams	Crenshaw	Harshbarger
Aderholt	Crist	Hartzler
Aguiar	Crow	Hastings
Allen	Cuellar	Hayes
Allred	Curtis	Hern
Amodei	Davidson	Herrell
Armstrong	Davis, Danny K.	Herrera Beutler
Auchincloss	Davis, Rodney	Hice (GA)
Axne	Dean	Higgins (LA)
Babin	DeFazio	Higgins (NY)
Bacon	DeGette	Hill
Baird	DeLauro	Himes
Balderson	DeBene	Hinson
Banks	Delgado	Hollingsworth
Barr	Demings	Horsford
Barragán	DeSaulnier	Houlahan
Bass	DesJarlais	Hoyer
Beatty	Deutch	Hudson
Bentz	Diaz-Balart	Huffman
Bera	Dingell	Huizenga
Bergman	Doggett	Issa
Beyer	Donalds	Jackson
Bice (OK)	Doyle, Michael	Jackson Lee
Biggs	F.	Jacobs (CA)
Bilirakis	Duncan	Jacobs (NY)
Bishop (GA)	Dunn	Jeffries
Bishop (NC)	Eshoo	Johnson (GA)
Blumenauer	Estes	Johnson (LA)
Blunt Rochester	Evans	Johnson (OH)
Boebert	Fallon	Johnson (SD)
Bonamici	Feenstra	Johnson (TX)
Bost	Ferguson	Jordan
Bourdeaux	Fischbach	Joyce (OH)
Boyle, Brendan	Fitzgerald	Joyce (PA)
F.	Fitzpatrick	Kahele
Brady	Fleischmann	Kaptur
Brooks	Fletcher	Katko
Brown	Fortenberry	Keating
Brownley	Foster	Keller
Buchanan	Fox	Kelly (IL)
Buck	Frankel, Lois	Kelly (MS)
Bucshon	Franklin, C.	Kelly (PA)
Budd	Scott	Khanna
Burchett	Fulcher	Kildee
Burgess	Gaetz	Kilmer
Bustos	Gallagher	Kim (CA)
Calvert	Gallego	Kim (NJ)
Cammack	Garamendi	Kind
Cardinal	Garbarino	Kinzinger
Cárdenas	García (CA)	Kirkpatrick
Carl	Gibbs	Krishnamoorthi
Carson	Gimenez	Kuster
Carter (GA)	Gohmert	Kustoff
Carter (TX)	Golden	LaHood
Cartwright	Gomez	Lamb
Case	Gonzales, Tony	Lamorn
Castor (FL)	Gonzalez (OH)	Langevin
Cawthorn	Gonzalez,	Larsen (WA)
Chabot	Vicente	Larson (CT)
Chu	Good (VA)	Latta
Cicilline	Gooden (TX)	LaTurner
Clark (MA)	Gosar	Lawrence
Clarke (NY)	Gottheimer	Lawson (FL)
Cleaver	Granger	Lee (CA)
Cline	Graves (LA)	Lee (NV)
Cloud	Graves (MO)	Leger Fernandez
Clyburn	Green (TN)	Lesko
Clyde	Green, Al (TX)	Levin (CA)
Cohen	Greene (GA)	Levin (MI)
Cole	Griffith	Lieu
Comer	Grijalva	Lofgren
Connolly	Grothman	Long
Cooper	Guest	Loudermilk
Correa	Guthrie	Lowenthal
Costa	Haaland	Lucas
Courtney	Hagedorn	Luetkemeyer
Craig	Harder (CA)	Luria
Crawford	Harris	Lynch
		Mace

Malinowski	Payne	Stauber
Malliotakis	Perlmutter	Steel
Maloney,	Perry	Stefanik
Carolyn B.	Peters	Steil
Maloney, Sean	Pfluger	Steube
Mann	Phillips	Stevens
Manning	Pingree	Stewart
Massie	Pocan	Stivers
Mast	Porter	Strickland
Matsui	Posey	Suozzi
McBath	Price (NC)	Swalwell
McCarthy	Quigley	Takano
McCaul	Raskin	Taylor
McClain	Reed	Tenney
McClintock	Reschenthaler	Thompson (CA)
McCollum	Rice (NY)	Thompson (MS)
McEachin	Rice (SC)	Thompson (PA)
McGovern	Rogers (AL)	Tiffany
McHenry	Rogers (KY)	Timmons
McKinley	Rose	Titus
McNerney	Rosendale	Tonko
Meeks	Ross	Torres (CA)
Meijer	Rouzer	Torres (NY)
Meng	Roy	Trahan
Meuser	Roybal-Allard	Trone
Mfume	Ruiz	Turner
Miller (IL)	Ruppersberger	Underwood
Miller (WV)	Rush	Upton
Miller-Meeks	Rutherford	Valadao
Moolenaar	Ryan	Van Drew
Mooney	Salazar	Van Dwyne
Moore (AL)	Sánchez	Vargas
Moore (UT)	Sarbanes	Veasey
Moore (WI)	Scalise	Vela
Morelle	Schakowsky	Velázquez
Moulton	Schiff	Wagner
Mrvan	Schneider	Walberg
Mullin	Schrader	Walorski
Murphy (FL)	Schrier	Waltz
Murphy (NC)	Schweikert	Wasserman
Nadler	Scott (VA)	Schultz
Napolitano	Scott, Austin	Waters
Neal	Scott, David	Watson Coleman
Neguse	Sessions	Webster (FL)
Nehls	Sewell	Welch
Newhouse	Sherman	Wenstrup
Newman	Sherrill	Westerman
Norcross	Sires	Wexton
Norman	Slotkin	Wild
Nunes	Smith (MO)	Williams (GA)
O'Halleran	Smith (NE)	Wilson (FL)
Obermole	Smith (NJ)	Wilson (SC)
Owens	Smith (WA)	Wittman
Palazzo	Smucker	Womack
Pallone	Soto	Yarmuth
Palmer	Spanberger	Young
Panetta	Spartz	Zeldin
Pappas	Speier	
Pascrell	Stanton	

NAYS—15

Bowman	Espallat	Ocasio-Cortez
Bush	García (IL)	Omar
Casten	García (TX)	Pressley
Castro (TX)	Jayapal	Scanlon
Escobar	Jones	Tlaib

NOT VOTING—10

Butterfield	LaMalfa	Weber (TX)
Cheney	Pence	Williams (TX)
Emmer	Rodgers (WA)	
Fudge	Simpson	

□ 1913

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. MALINOWSKI, SMITH of Nebraska, and CARL changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Davids)	Bowman (Clark)	Cárdenas
(KS))	(MA))	(Gomez)
Barragán (Beyer)	Boyle, Brendan	Carter (TX)
Bilirakis	F. (Jeffries)	(Nehls)
(Fleischmann)	Buchanan	DeSaulnier
	(Donalds)	(Matsui)

Deutch (Rice (NY))	Kirkpatrick (Stanton)	Neguse (Perlmutter)
Dingell (Kuster)	Langevin (Lynch)	Payne (Pallone)
Frankel, Lois (Clark (MA))	Lawson (FL)	Pingree (Kuster)
Gaetz (Franklin, C. Scott)	(Evans)	Porter (Wexton)
Gonzalez, Vincente	Lieu (Beyer)	Royal-Allard (Bass)
(Gomez)	Lofgren (Jeffries)	Ruiz (Aguilar)
Gosar (Wagner)	Lowenthal	Rush
Grijalva (Garcia (IL))	(Beyer)	(Underwood)
Hastings (Clever)	Meng (Clark (MA))	Stevens (Wexton)
Huffman (Thompson (CA))	Moore (WI)	Vargas (Correa)
	(Beyer)	Wasserman
	Moulton	Schultz (Soto)
	(Trahan)	Watson Coleman
	Napolitano (Correa)	(Pallone)
		Wilson (FL)
		(Hayes)

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE LOSSES CAUSED BY COVID-19

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, just a few minutes ago, Members stood on the steps of the United States Congress, reminiscent of the unity of this Nation and the words of our Pledge of Allegiance that we stand united.

I rise to offer words of condolence and remembrance for the 500,000 lives taken by COVID-19. The Nation, over the last 12 months, has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken lives, devastated the economy, and put millions at risk of greater hardship due to the death of a loved one, unemployment, loss of healthcare or forgone education opportunities.

I continue to remember the little 4-year-old boy in Texas who lost both of his parents; or those who continue to mourn losing a mom, dad, husband, wife, children, yes, and siblings.

Yesterday, as the news broke that this Nation has lost 500,000—more than World War I, World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war—my heart was heavy, and this loss is a sad mark.

So I come today to this floor to say to those who have lost: You will never be forgotten.

To those who remain: Your loved one will never be forgotten. Their lives will not be in vain. Their deaths will not be in vain.

And though these are staggering proportions, our commitment as the United States Congress should be to ensure this moment.

Madam Speaker, I end by a quiet moment of silence at this moment.

Madam Speaker, I rise to offer words of condolence and remembrance for the five hundred thousand lives taken by COVID-19.

The Nation over the last twelve months has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken too many lives, devastated the economy and put millions at risk of greater hardship due to the death of a loved one, unemployment, loss of health care or forgone education opportunities.

Yesterday, as news broke that the Nation had reached the milestone of losing five hundred thousand people to COVID-19, I was at the dedication of a Community Vaccination Center at the NRG Stadium located in Houston Texas.

Today, with a heavy heart our nation sadly marks the loss of 500,000 American lives to

the coronavirus: an unimaginable human toll in our modern era of medical and technological advances.

These deaths are of staggering proportions and cause incomprehensible sadness, but we cannot think of them as the end of COVID-19.

As we have learned COVID-19 can surge again claiming even more lives.

This is why we cannot be complacent by accepting so much death without continuing to fight to save lives and end this pandemic.

Every life lost is a profound tragedy and earth-shattering moment in the lives of families, neighborhoods, and communities that touch each of us in countless ways as we mourn and console our family members, co-workers, neighbors and friends.

Today, I joined my colleagues of the House to observe a moment of silence on the steps of the Capitol for the 500,000 lives lost.

Members of Congress will join tens of millions of Americans in prayer for the lives lost or devastated by this vicious virus.

As we pray, we must commit ourselves to honoring those we have lost by wearing face coverings, observing social distance, washing of hands—and most important getting the vaccine when it is our time to do so as a pledge to all who have been taken from us far too soon that we will act swiftly to put an end to this pandemic and to stem the suffering felt by so many.

My commitment is to save lives and also livelihoods through public and personal action.

As Texans work to overcome the tragic winter disaster that befell the state last week, I wrote to President Biden asking that he grant the state's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, which he did and today FEMA is on the ground providing water delivery, food distribution, and other vital services to help Texans get back on their feet.

I also encourage those who have lost health insurance during the economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic to take advantage of the extended enrollment period for getting health insurance through healthcare.gov, which is open until May 15, 2021.

Currently, 36 states are using HealthCare.gov. Since President Biden announced the creation of the Special Enrollment Period for HealthCare.gov, all 14 states and D.C. that have their own state-based marketplaces have announced that they would also have Special Enrollment Periods.

President Biden has extended a lifeline to struggling small businesses, to save American jobs and power the American economy, while promoting equity and fairness across Main Street.

The reforms he had made will expand access to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to the hardest-hit businesses that anchor our low and middle-income and communities of color.

Importantly, they will ensure that sole proprietors, which are overwhelmingly women and minorities, and which also serve our immigrant communities, are not left behind.

My unwavering support of these Biden Administration reforms will also build on recent PPP successes that increase assistance to businesses with ten or fewer employees in underserved and rural areas.

They also build on the work of increasing assistance through community-based lenders that specialize in serving those markets.

As President Biden advances these actions, I can say with pride that I participated in the

Budget Committee's Markup of the American Rescue Plan intended to end COVID-19 pandemic and save the nation's economy.

Real Help is on the way. We will win this battle against COVID and save the economy by working together.

I conclude with these words "Precious Lord take my hand" and lead me on. We will together win the battle.

PENN STATE THON

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give a big thank-you to Penn State students for their commitment to an incredible cause.

Each year, students spend countless hours raising awareness and money in the fight against pediatric cancer. Every February, these efforts culminate in a 46-hour dance marathon known as THON.

THON provides financial and emotional support to thousands of families across the Commonwealth who have a child battling pediatric cancer.

THON is normally a celebration of thousands in the Bryce Jordan Center on campus—an opportunity for children with cancer to focus on simply being a kid even just for the weekend.

Sadly, the pandemic forced this proud tradition online this year. However, despite a global pandemic, students still managed to raise \$10.6 million this year.

Since 1973, Penn State students have raised more than \$180 million. Those figures, combined with nearly 17,000 student volunteers, makes Penn State THON the largest student-run philanthropic effort in the world.

I am proud of the Penn State students who are so committed to this cause, and I am even more proud of the children and families who keep fighting.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: HONORING COBB COUNTY SHERIFF CRAIG OWENS

(Mrs. MCBATH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, I rise today in honor of a trailblazer in Black history, Cobb County Sheriff Craig Owens.

This past November, Sheriff Owens made history as the first African American to be elected sheriff in Cobb County, in my district.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Sheriff Owens has served over 30 years in the Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and Cobb County Police Department. His career in law enforcement utilizes the leadership skills that he gained from his experience serving in our Armed Forces.

Sheriff Owens leads by putting people first, and I am so proud of the work he is doing to unite Cobb County and instill faith and trust in its police department. As one of his constituents and as a partner in service to Cobb County, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Sheriff Owens today.

REMEMBERING TOM SEIPEL, JR.

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Tom Seipel, Jr., who passed away on February 13.

Tom had a heart for enriching the lives of countless children, and it shined in all he did.

After graduating from Ohio State University, he moved to Seoul, South Korea, to teach English to kindergartners. Tom then returned to the U.S. to serve as a children's minister in Kentucky for several years.

He later selflessly moved to Nicaragua, where he opened and operated a children's ministry to provide meals and afterschool tutoring for the poor children of Managua. While there, Tom also taught at Nicaragua Christian Academy.

In his final years before losing his hard-fought battle with cancer, he received treatment in Savannah, Georgia.

Tom's legacy will surely live on for many years to come, and I am thankful for the positive impact he made on countless lives. My thoughts and prayers go out to all who knew and loved him, especially the love of his life, Margarita, and their daughter, Mia Isabella.

RECOGNIZING MACOMB AND OAKLAND COUNTY STUDENTS

(Mr. LEVIN of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Macomb and Oakland County students who participated in my inaugural Ninth District MLK Jr. Day Youth Conference. These students brought their whole brilliant, vulnerable, and idealistic selves to the table to zero in on what Dr. King's life is really about: transforming society to be more just.

COVID-19 has exposed deep inequalities in every facet of life, especially for Black Americans, who are nearly two times as likely as White Americans to die of COVID-19. Imagine what we could do to end these disparities if we honor Dr. King by emulating his work.

Having watched these students sponge up lessons on the true premise of MLK Day—achieving social justice—and make plans to fight for change in their own lives and communities, I am

energized and hopeful that we can boldly champion justice and equality in Congress. I can think of no better way of marking Black History Month than that.

RECOGNIZING PARRY McCLUER HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Parry McCluer High School boys' basketball team that won the Virginia Class 1 State championship this weekend.

After trailing by 8 in the first quarter to Altavista, the Fighting Blues lived up to their name and battled back—leading by 2 at halftime. In the locker room, Coach Cartolaro told his team to go out and attack in the third quarter. And attack they did. Quickly outscoring 10-2, the Blues opened up their lead and never looked back. When the final buzzer sounded, Parry McCluer had pulled off a 17-point victory, securing the school's best-ever boys' basketball championship and closing the season with an impressive 12-1 record.

I applaud Coach Cartolaro and the entire team for their fortitude and perseverance these past few months. They overcame every obstacle presented to them and brought home the trophy to Buena Vista.

Congratulations to the Blues. This achievement is well-deserved and their community is proud of their hard work.

EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Equality Act.

For far too long our Nation has failed to read and live up to the words that adorn the front of the United States Supreme Court: Equal Justice Under Law.

We now have a rare opportunity to explicitly push our Nation to live up to its founding ideals and make that phrase ring true for all Americans. No matter who you are or whom you love, under the Equality Act you will be guaranteed the exact same protections as everybody else.

LGBTQ individuals should not have to worry when they try to access a small business loan, seek healthcare, or buy a home.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to co-sponsor this historic civil rights legislation, and I look forward to casting my vote in support of its passage.

REMEMBERING RUSH LIMBAUGH

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight in sadness to acknowledge and commemorate the loss of an American icon, Rush Limbaugh, who, since 1985, extolled the virtues of conservatism on radio.

Starting in Sacramento, California, for the first 3 years, 1985 to 1988, he was within range of my tractor and my pickup out in the fields, where I was working at the time. He was really a breath of fresh air for radio, for a different type of talk and a different style.

I know he inspired millions around the country during his many years on radio. With his loss, he won't be replaced. He surely led the way for many others to take on that mantle, but nobody will do it quite like Rush Limbaugh. He did so well at it, and he touched so many that he was even recognized about 1 year ago right here in this Chamber by President Trump with the Medal of Freedom, one of the highest honors anybody can receive.

Mr. Limbaugh may be controversial to some, but he was always coming from truly a humble heart to try to get a message out to what America was about, his love for this country, and a love for its ideals.

So I know that many will miss him, and I am glad to be honored to help touch on his legacy here tonight.

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LIVING UP TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND EQUITY

(Ms. NEWMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NEWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the millions of Americans who continue to be denied housing, education, public services, and much, much more because they identify as members of the LGBTQ community; Americans like my own daughter who, years ago, bravely came out to her parents as transgender.

I knew from that day on, my daughter would be living in a nation where, in most of it States, she could be discriminated against merely because of who she is. And yet, it was still the happiest day of my life, because my daughter has found her authentic self.

And as any mother would, I swore that I would fight to ensure this country changes for the better. Without the Equality Act, this Nation will never live up to its principles of freedom and equality. The right time to pass this act was decades ago. The second best time is right now.

I am voting yes on the Equality Act for Evie Newman, my daughter, and the strongest, bravest person I know.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE LETLOW

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, coming from Illinois, it is often a question I get here in this Chamber, why do you have a pin of the State of Louisiana on your lapel?

I have the pin on my lapel because there is a void, a void in this institution because one of our colleagues wasn't able to get sworn in. Luke Letlow would have made a tremendous Member of this institution. And I want to thank my colleague, MIKE JOHNSON, and the entire Louisiana delegation, and what would have been his freshman class, for honoring him tonight in a Special Order.

Like Luke, I was a district staffer for years, trying to make this House be a better place for every single American. I was looking forward to serving with him. Unfortunately, tragedy took his life, and we are without his service.

My heart goes out to his wife, Julia, and their two kids, and the entire State of Louisiana, and this institution, for not having the opportunity to see the true leadership of Congressman Luke Letlow.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE LETLOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BOURDEAUX). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, our Special Order tonight is to honor a dear friend, one who would have been a colleague of ours here, and a great tragedy.

Congressman-elect Luke Joshua Letlow, from Start, Louisiana, passed away from complications due to COVID-19 on December 29, 2020. He had just been elected to Congress December 5, and he was only, as we know, weeks away from taking the oath of office and serving here with us.

He was 41 years old. He was in the prime of his life and, so far as any of us could tell, otherwise the picture of health and energy and excitement and positivity. He was excited to serve with us here. His death came as a terrible shock to all the people of Louisiana and to millions of people around this country.

Luke was known in Louisiana for having a servant's heart. He had a peaceful nature about him. When he talked to a constituent, or a friend, or anyone, he made them feel they were the most important person in the world. He was one of those guys who was a great statesman, and he would have left a big mark here.

I have also been encouraged since his passing to know that my friend was guided by his faith in Christ. A good friend of ours told me shortly after his passing that Luke was drawn even closer to the Lord in his final days. In fact, he called this trusted prayer warrior to share briefly about an experience he had just a few nights before he passed away.

He was in the hospital, and Luke said he felt the certain presence of God and his peace. Luke Letlow knew the truth of Christ and the peace of his salvation, and we all have taken great comfort in that.

Luke leaves behind his devoted wife, Julia, and their two young children, Jeremiah and Jacqueline. He leaves his parents, Johnny and Dianne Letlow; his grandmother, Mary Taylor; his brothers, Paul and Matt, and their families; and a huge network of people who were like family to Luke and loved him as their own.

He was raised in Start, Louisiana, just east of Monroe. For the people who don't know the geography, it is northeast Louisiana. Throughout his entire adult life, it was very clear how deeply he cared about the people of our State and those who live in the Fifth Congressional District, which is a sprawling 24 parishes, the largest by land area in our State.

He worked for Bobby Jindal during Jindal's stint here in the U.S. House, and also later when Bobby was elected Louisiana's Governor.

Luke also worked as chief of staff for his predecessor and our good friend, Dr. Ralph Abraham, who just retired and left the seat open.

Throughout Luke's time in each of those positions, he made it a priority to work every day to benefit those that he served. He wanted to make life better for the people of his home State and, in those efforts, he worked closely with our farmers and the oil and gas industry and countless small businesses to ensure they were given every opportunity to succeed.

Judging from his accomplishments and a remarkable record of public service, there is no doubt at all that he would have made an outstanding Member of Congress.

Many people are aware now that there will be a special election in March, March 20, to fill that seat that he has left open, and we are delighted to tell you that his beloved bride, his widow, Dr. Julia Barnhill Letlow, will be running for that seat, and we expect that she will be taking her place here shortly thereafter.

She is a native of Monroe, a dedicated mother, of course, and an edu-

cation professional who has dedicated her life to promote and advocate for higher education, traditional family values, and our quality of life in Louisiana. We are excited to soon welcome her here to fill the giant void that our dear friend and brother, Luke, has left us.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), another member of our delegation.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, Congressman-elect Luke Letlow was called home far too soon. He was a friend and we were looking forward to working together here in the people's House.

His passing was so sudden and unexpected that it caused many of us—it certainly caused me to reflect upon my life and to be renewed in my determination to serve the people and to become a better man every day, because that is the kind of spirit that Luke delivered to the world.

He was a charming and brilliant man with a beautiful smile, a wonderful spirit, a compassionate man, driven to serve.

I had the opportunity to break bread with Julia, Luke's wife, last week, and I saw in speaking to her that Luke lives in the light in her eye, in her children, and everyone that Luke touched during the course of his life.

So I am prayerful that this child of God's presence will be felt, that Representative-elect Luke Letlow's service will, indeed, be felt within this Chamber, if we can just take a moment to seek that guidance that he clearly pursued and listened to during the course of his life. He brought that to those that he worked with and the citizens that he served. So I thank my colleagues for arranging this Special Order tonight.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana, Mr. HIGGINS, for his remarks. We sat together at the funeral of Luke, and it was a great service. There were so many kind words said about him. And he is remembered to just be the great spirit and the great Louisiana homegrown talent that he was.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE), who is also the freshman class president, the class that Luke of course would have been a part of.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding.

I rise today as the president of the 117th Congress Republican freshman class to express our profound sadness that we all share for the loss of our friend and colleague, Luke Letlow.

Luke was a great American who was committed to serving his country and the people of his home State of Louisiana. Sadly, Luke was taken from us way too early.

I never actually had the chance to meet Luke. He was elected on December 5, which was the last day of the second week of New Member orientation.

But as the freshman class president, I felt it my duty to make sure that he felt included by texting him, connecting him with other Members, and making sure that he had all of his needs met as he joined this 117th freshman class.

Our entire class looked forward to being sworn in together on January 3, and we were devastated by the news of his passing on December 29 of 2020. We all know that Luke would have been a tremendous addition and someone who would have made a positive impact on this great Nation.

I join with all of my colleagues in sending our thoughts and support to Luke's family, including his wife, Julia, son, Jeremiah, daughter, Jacqueline, and I am keeping them all in my prayers.

It is interesting to see In God We Trust above the Speaker's chair because one thing I do know is that Luke trusted God.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership of the freshman class and for those kind remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), another leader from that class.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Luke Letlow.

Luke and I spoke many times as we both prepared to enter Congress, and we shared the privilege of both representing districts that are centered around a couple of very important things, faith, family and agriculture. I looked forward to serving with him and working together to better the lives of our farmers and our ranchers across the district and across the entire country.

Luke led a life of public service to the good people in the great State of Louisiana from a young age, beginning as a young college graduate serving on the staff of Congressman John Cooksey, the Representative of Louisiana's Fifth District at that time.

He went on to serve the people in multiple capacities before launching a successful Congressional bid of his own.

He was a man of faith in Jesus Christ, and he lived his life in accordance with His guiding principles. There is no way for us to know the thousands of lives that he had already touched before he entered into a plan to run for Congress, and how many lives he touched in those years of service, and the countless others who were blessed just by knowing him.

There was nothing that he loved more than serving others and primarily, his love of being a husband and a father, a husband to his wife, Julia, and a father to their two children, Jeremiah and Jacqueline, something that his legacy will live on forever in our hearts.

Today, we give glory to God for his life and pause to reflect on that legacy which will live on through Julia, Jeremiah, and Jacqueline. My prayers are with all of them.

His passing is a tremendous loss to this U.S. Congress, to the State of Louisiana and, more importantly, to his family and friends who loved him and cherished him.

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Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, we have a few others from the class that Luke Letlow would have been proud to serve in, some of the rising leaders here. I will call on them in no particular order here, but I yield to another gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON), if he is ready.

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I never had the privilege and blessing to meet Luke Letlow in person and to share our hearts and enjoy the blessed gift of fellowship. But to be honest, I still feel a bond and a connection and a friendship with Luke because we were both married to beautiful, successful women, and we certainly outkicked our coverage; we both had two children; and we both chose public service and eventually ran for Congress.

Luke left this world far too early, only 41. The scourge of an evil virus whose growth across the globe was fostered by the nefarious denial and negligence of a Communist regime in Beijing.

COVID-19 has claimed millions, 500,000 here at home, and it stole Luke from us. Luke Letlow, a man in his prime who had everything to live for, is now gone. And it shouldn't be that way.

He should be with us today. He should be with us here, voting, visiting, talking, learning, and leading. But COVID robbed our country and this Chamber of Luke Letlow.

This same scourge, Madam Speaker, crossed my path 3½ weeks ago, and it damn near killed me. I experienced the worst pain in my life. I had bacterial and viral pneumonia, along with the virus thriving in my body at the same time. I thought I was going to die. Prayers and terrific American medical care spared me. So I am not going to hold back, and I am just going to talk frankly and from the heart.

I am consumed today, right now, this very moment, with why. Why is Luke gone? Why was I spared? Why are 500,000 Americans dead? I don't know. But I do have a strong belief that we all have a purpose, and everyone in this Chamber has a purpose the Almighty has for us, and we just don't know what it is yet.

I feel, now that I have been gifted bonus decades, I want to know what I should do with those years. How should I lead my life? The bottom line is, we all should ask ourselves that question and exercise the power that we have within each of our souls to be kinder, to be gentler, to be more understanding, to smile when somebody walks on an elevator. It costs us nothing to do these things. We should live for others. And above all, we should love and never be ashamed to be vulnerable and love thy neighbor.

We want to honor Luke Letlow? You want to honor his legacy and his life? Then live and love and be joyous and be kind. Live for others with all of your hearts. I am not the least bit ashamed to say that I am going to try.

That is what we are here for, and that is our purpose. Let's acknowledge the bounties and the blessings and the very gift of life itself because life is short, and it is delicate, and it is fragile, and it is fleeting, and it is also so very beautiful.

Luke, we are praying for you. We miss you; we love you; and we are going to be there for Julia and your kids.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON), another classmate of Luke's.

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, tonight, we are here to honor the life of Luke Letlow, who was taken from us far too soon.

Luke led a life of public service, and he was dedicated to bettering the lives in Louisiana. I know he was so looking forward to serving the great people of the State of Louisiana here in Congress.

Most importantly, though, he was a dedicated husband to his wife, Julia, and a loving father to their two young children. We are all grieving with them during this time, their entire family. I hope the Letlow family can seek some comfort in knowing that so many people here in D.C., back in Iowa, Georgia, and around the country are lifting up prayers for them every single day.

Although Luke is no longer with us, he does leave behind, and he reminds us about, a remarkable legacy that we and, most importantly, his two children will always be able to remember him by long after we are all gone from this place, too.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, for letting me speak tonight on behalf of our classmate, Luke Letlow, and his entire family.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida, Mrs. KAT CAMMACK, another bright light in this class and my friend.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Luke Letlow.

As a Member-elect of this freshman class, Luke was one of us. We didn't get the privilege of serving alongside him, but in getting to know his family, I have no doubt that he would have been an energetic leader among us.

In talking with Luke's wife, Julia, I have come to know the very best of what Luke stood for and why he will forever be with us as a Member of this body.

Luke's love of Louisiana ran as deep as the roots of generations that came before him. Luke revered leaders ranging from Ronald Reagan, whose optimistic vision of conservatism transformed the Republican Party and the world, to the local Richland Parish police jurors who ensured residents received the essential services that local

government was charged with providing.

Luke loved studying Louisiana political history and voraciously read every out-of-print book on the subject that he could get his hands on. Luke's passion for preserving the history of Richland Parish and his forebears took him from documenting gravesites and local churches to building a website that chronicled the history of the rural community where he was raised.

Luke's love of America, Louisiana, and Richland Parish defined him as a person and motivated him to pursue a career in the noble profession of public service.

Tonight, we honor his memory. But moving forward, we will strive to embody his passion for people, our history, and our Nation.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to introduce another member of the Louisiana delegation for remarks in our Special Order tonight. We are going in, it seems to be, reverse order by seniority, but I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), my friend. He knew Luke very well, and I know he will bring some good thoughts to us tonight.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Mr. JOHNSON, for yielding and for organizing this.

Madam Speaker, I sat here and listened to all of these people talk about Luke Letlow, and I don't know who they are talking about.

Luke was a redneck. There is this iconic picture of Luke where he is wearing this hat, and it says: "Start Fire." The only thing that comes to mind is this is parent material, right?

Luke was a good ol' boy, and I know, in many instances, that term is associated with negativity. That is not Luke. Luke was a force for good, and he did that before the Navy even coined that term.

I have known him for 15, 20 years. We staffed together up here in Congress. We worked together in the Governor's office in Louisiana. Luke was always a workhorse, always, not a show horse.

Madam Speaker, Luke was a public servant. He wasn't a politician. He had a heart for the public. He had a heart for fixing things, and he was good at it. Luke brought folks together, and he got things done.

There wasn't a prejudiced or discriminatory bone in his body. Everybody was a friend. Everybody Luke met, he looked you in the eye, he gave you that little grin, which was a little bit cockeyed, and he truly wanted to know you.

He truly wanted to get to know people, to find out what you were about. He loved finding out about the background or history of people, their ancestry, their relatives, where they were from, what they did, what they cared about.

Madam Speaker, the people in the Fifth District of Louisiana saw that as

well. There are 24 parishes that comprise the Fifth District, and Luke won 23 of those, 23 of them in the election. This district, his predecessor used to brag, and Luke serving as the chief of staff to Congressman Ralph Abraham used to brag, has more acres of row crops than any other district in Congress. This wasn't an urban area. This wasn't New York City or even New Orleans. This was a rural area. Madam Speaker, these were the people that Luke had a heart for.

I have never in my life been as excited as I was to have a colleague like Luke. Years and years ago, I told him, I said: "Luke, look, if Doc, if Ralph Abraham, ever steps down, you have to run. You have to do it."

There are a lot of people up here that are good. Luke would have been great.

Madam Speaker, you look at this place, you watch the network TV, the news, and you wonder why in the world anyone would want to come to do this. You have really got to question people's sanity, looking at how dysfunctional, how partisan, how divisive this place is.

One of the previous speakers hit it on the head when they said Luke is exactly what we need. He is exactly what we need here. I will say it again: Luke is a workhorse, not a show horse. He brings people together. He doesn't care about your race, your ethnicity. He doesn't care about your political party. What he cares about is doing things right.

Luke's dream was to find a good life partner, and knowing him when he was a little younger, I think many of us thought that was a pretty lofty goal for Luke. But, man, he nailed it. He did. Julia, his partner, his life partner, his spouse, his wife, is just amazing, and Luke was just so excited, so giddy, about that relationship.

Luke's dream was to be a good son, and he is. He is a great son. He is a great brother.

Before I leave you all with the wrong impression, I should have clarified that his dad actually started the volunteer fire department in Start, S-t-a-r-t, where he was from. I didn't mean to suggest that he was a pyro. He was a good son.

Luke's dream was to be a Member of Congress, and he did that, too. He won the election. His dream was to be a good father to Jeremiah and the apple of his eye, Jacqueline. He loves them, absolutely loves them.

And his dream was to be a good Christian. Look, all of us are sinners, but Luke was a difference-maker.

He didn't run for Congress for the name recognition, for the ego, or for the popularity. He did this, he ran, to represent the underrepresented, to stand up for these small communities, like Start, Louisiana, and the people of these small communities so they would have a voice, so they would be represented.

I will never in my life forget when we were at the burial, following the hearse

to the burial ceremony, seeing that hearse driving and the water tower of Start right there in the background, and this just ominous sky. All I could think about is Luke doing what was right and wanting to be here because he really cared. He did. It was so genuine.

Madam Speaker, people often talk about term limits, and term limits make a lot of sense. There are some people that should be term-limited after they have been in Congress for about 2 months, and there are some people that should be term-limited after 40 years. Luke was one of those people who should be here forever because you couldn't change his genuine heart and care for the people and doing what is right.

□ 2000

So, Madam Speaker, I want to thank, again, my friend from Louisiana for organizing this. It was absolutely well deserved. Filling the void Ralph Abraham's retirement created was a big void, but, certainly, Luke was absolutely up for that task. He was going to do an amazing job.

To Julia, to Jeremiah, to Jacqueline: Luke is looking down at us from heaven right now probably playing Xbox or PlayStation, and he is looking over this place. He is looking over this family. What Louisiana lost was heaven's gain.

God bless you, brother.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, GARRET GRAVES of Louisiana, for those poignant words. The funeral service was like that, with recollections from close friends. We could have sat there all afternoon and reveled in it.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the whip, my dear friend, and one of the guys who helped guide Luke on his path to get here.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand here today to pay tribute to Luke Letlow. Just like earlier tonight when we stood out on the steps of the Capitol to pay respects to the 500,000 people who we have lost from COVID-19, Luke, unfortunately, is in that number. He is not somebody you would have expected. He was young, healthy, and he had his whole life in front of him.

He had already lived a rich life. He had already left such a powerful impact on people in the right kind of way, like my colleague, Congressman GRAVES, talked about. He had a big heart, Madam Speaker. He had a servant's heart.

Luke was the kind of person who you want to get into public service to do it for the right reasons, to actually believe in something and want to make people's lives better.

When he would go through the rural communities of his district—which is a

very rural district—he would just talk to people, strike up conversations. He would want to hear their stories and he would want to help people. He had a lot of opportunities to do that, Madam Speaker.

He started working for Congressman John Cooksey out of college at Louisiana Tech. He had already garnished a desire for public service.

After he worked for Congressman Cooksey, I met him in 2004, when he was working on the campaign of my predecessor, Bobby Jindal, who got elected to Congress. Luke served with him there. When Bobby got elected Governor, Luke went to serve with him in the State to make our State a better place.

And then when Ralph Abraham came to Congress, Luke spent the last 6 years working for Ralph as his chief of staff, going around the rural parts of that district in northeast Louisiana, just reaching out, finding out about people.

He was very much into genealogy. He wanted to know not just about people, but about their history, where they came from, what made people tick, and how he could keep making a difference.

Ultimately, when Ralph retired, Luke made that decision to run. And he didn't make that decision alone. His lovely wife, Julia, was all in. They were a family that was a partnership. They were a true love story of two people who cared deeply about each other and who cared deeply about their young children: young Jeremiah; and young Jacqueline, who we also grieve for.

It is heartbreaking when you think of the promise and what was lost, what we as colleagues lost. You hear members of his own freshman class who never got to serve with him—some have might not even met with him, just knew about him or heard about him—and miss him. That is the kind of person who Luke Letlow was.

I got to talk to Luke a lot in those last few days and in the last few weeks before he even got COVID. He was so excited to come up here and get sworn in as a Member of Congress and to start helping people in a different way.

He had already helped so many people working for others, but now was his chance to make his own mark. He was talking about what committees he wanted to be on. He wanted to serve on the Agriculture Committee. He wanted to serve on the Appropriations Committee. And he had big ideas, ideas that inspire other people to want to do better as well.

So, Madam Speaker, when we remember Luke Letlow, it is that big smile that Luke had. It is that servant's heart, the heart of a person who cares about other people and wanted to make a difference for all of the right reasons. Thank God we still have people like Luke Letlow who care enough to want to get into public service for the right reasons.

It is sad that we didn't get that opportunity to serve with him. I so

looked forward to serving with him as a colleague in the Louisiana delegation. He was only 5 days away from getting sworn in when we lost him.

So, Madam Speaker, as we remember the life of Luke Letlow, I know he is up in heaven looking down. He was a man of deep, deep faith, and that faith carried him and his family through those difficulties in the last few days when he was struggling and fighting for his life. I know that faith is what got him into heaven. He would probably be looking down and saying: Y'all shouldn't be making such a big fuss.

But you know what? He deserves this kind of tribute because this would have been a richer body if we had Luke Letlow.

We will all remember him and keep him in our thoughts and our prayers.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the whip for those great remarks and his great leadership, and I know Luke appreciated that as well.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding and for setting up this Special Order to honor Congressman-elect Luke Letlow.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Congressman-elect Luke Letlow, whose tireless work for his community, passion for public service, and love for his constituents will long be an inspiration to many Americans.

He spoke glowingly of the mighty Mississippi and his district's rich Louisiana soil, both of which flowed freely through his veins as he passionately advocated for the people who elected him to be their voice.

His life of service working for Governor Bobby Jindal, serving as chief of staff to Congressman Ralph Abraham, and then successfully running for Congress himself, exemplified his commitment to win the day.

Congressman-elect Letlow shared my great love for our Western States, and he was a fierce advocate for the issues facing everyday Americans. His calling to public service was only surpassed by his calling to be a loving husband, father, brother, and son. He cared deeply for his beloved wife, Julia; son, Jeremiah; and daughter, Jacqueline.

After he won his race, Congressman-elect Letlow's wife, Julia, spoke of God's sovereignty over the life of her husband, quoting the words from scripture: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I set you apart."

God set Luke apart with a calling, with an anointing, and that same calling and anointing is now in that Godly heritage that he has left behind. God's wraparound presence is surrounding the Letlow family.

God's plan for Luke's life was one of service, and his legacy will live on through his family. His wife, Julia, is a

woman of deep faith. A calling to public service is on her life. She was his rock for all of his years in public life. I am honored to call her my friend now.

May his family find comfort in the words of the scripture: "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted. . . ." and in knowing that Congressman-elect Letlow fought the good fight, finished his race, and kept the faith.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado for her words. That was very appropriate. I was going to cite the same scripture.

I will just say this as we close tonight: The night we got word of Luke's passing was December 29, and that word, the phone call we got shook my whole family, as it did everybody in the State.

As we were putting our children to bed at night, I reminded my youngest son, my 10-year-old son, that while grieving is part of our human experience, the Lord mourns with us. We know that from Isaiah 53:4. And as Lauren just said, He always remains close to the brokenhearted. Psalm 34.

So many are mourning this loss and so many remain brokenhearted. But I will close with these words from the Apostle Paul, as he wrote to the church in Rome, Romans 8:38-39: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present or the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Luke believed that and he lived it, and he would want us to remember it, too.

Madam Speaker, this concludes our Special Order tonight, and I yield back the balance of my time.

DANGER OF GENDER IDENTITY POLITICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Louisiana, for that very heartfelt time recognizing Mr. Letlow and his family. Our hearts are with them.

I now move on to another topic that is also very, very important to all of us and to America, and it deals with a bill that will be on the floor this week.

It is shamefully called the Equality Act, but it shreds the principles of protecting our children. In fact, under this

bill, children, beginning with the womb, will be targeted and victimized.

Under this bill, children in the classroom will be bombarded with unscientific, confusing materials questioning the reality of their biological sex.

Under this bill, children struggling with gender dysphoria will be pushed toward medical treatments and even surgical procedures, which will disrupt their natural development and may leave them sterile and physically altered for life.

Under this bill, children's privacy will be violated when locker rooms, restrooms, and homeless shelters will no longer be single sex.

Under this bill, parents may face custody battles for making healthy, wholesome choices for their children's health.

This scenario was not hypothetical for the Ohio couple who lost custody of their daughter for not affirming hormonal treatments.

Under this bill, foster care and adoption agencies will be forced to shutter. And this is just the tip of the iceberg.

The so-called Equality Act jeopardizes the well-being of our children. It jeopardizes the role of parents, the privacy and safety of vulnerable women, the competitive edge of female athletes, the livelihood of charities and businesses, and the integrity of our healthcare system.

We demand better for our children and their futures, and we will not be silent. We are here tonight to expose the Equality Act for what it is, a far-reaching policy that will upend all aspects of life, and turn basic decency and common sense into discrimination.

I appreciate my colleagues who have joined me tonight to let America know why this bill must be defeated.

Madam Speaker, first, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS), my friend and colleague who is a practicing anesthesiologist.

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, this bill, the Equality Act, is nothing more than an identity politic sellout, a thinly veiled attempt to attack and coerce individuals who hold serious and legitimate concerns or objections to things like parental rights to make healthcare decisions for their children; the ability of women to compete on an equal athletic playing field; and even medical procedures like sterilization and abortion.

I am a physician and I have been practicing medicine for over 35 years. This bill, if enacted, would mandate that healthcare practitioners and even facilities like Catholic hospitals would be forced to provide and participate in procedures like abortion, which ends a human life.

We should all be able to agree that a Catholic hospital should never be compelled by the government to offer procedures like abortion that they morally object to in the strongest possible terms.

Furthermore, if society continues to support politically correct gender iden-

tity politics, the science is becoming clearer that gender dysphoria, especially in children, is a psychiatric condition that in most cases will resolve itself with time.

Instead, however, this bill would require parents to allow irreversible medical interventions for their children, children who may even be prepubescent, resulting in sterilization, and oftentimes later regret.

□ 2015

Scientific data confirms that many who undergo gender transition continue to deal with serious depression, even after full transition. And the poorly named "Equality Act" would mandate that medical professionals accept and support the desire of their patients to undergo these invasive procedures, even if they have professional or conscience objections.

Madam Speaker, in response, I will be reintroducing the Conscience Protection Act this week. My bill will protect healthcare providers from being required to perform abortions or sterilizations and allow them to continue practicing medicine without duress or coercion from their employer or perhaps even their patients.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor my bill, and I oppose the so-called Equality Act on the floor this week.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank Dr. HARRIS, and I appreciate his firsthand experience and thoughts on this very, very, serious matter.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN), cochair of the Values Action Team.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri for her courage and backbone in supporting these vital social issues.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on the dangers of H.R. 5, the so-called Equality Act. This bill would have disastrous effects on our culture. H.R. 5 will not only turn the Civil Rights Act on its head, it would harass individuals and entities who are merely seeking to exercise their sincerely held religious beliefs.

Under the current text, countless faith-based businesses and nonprofits across the country would simply cease to exist. I am not convinced that my colleagues across the aisle understand the far-reaching consequences of the so-called Equality Act. The reality is that churches could be forced to violate their beliefs simply to stay open if it were enforced as written.

This awful legislation also creates fundamental inequalities for many Americans. Parents sending their kids to public schools would live in fear that their young daughter would have to use the same locker room or restroom as a man because the Equality Act would open the door to biological males self-identifying as females.

I have introduced an amendment to the Equality Act protecting accommodations choosing to designate pri-

vate, single-sex spaces, such as restrooms or locker rooms. I hope the Democrat majority allows a vote on this commonsense amendment that tens of millions of American parents want.

In addition, the so-called Equality Act would significantly disadvantage women participating in sex-specific sports leagues. That is why I have also introduced an amendment, originally filed as a bill last Congress by Democratic Representative TULSI GABBARD, protecting equal opportunities for women and girls in high school and college sports. This amendment of mine seeks to protect women and girls simply wanting to compete against other biological women and girls on a level playing field.

Women and children suffer when Democrat policies are enacted. Women's sports, and the girls and young women who just simply want to compete with other females on an equal basis, will be the victims of Democrat policies.

Madam Speaker, I adamantly oppose the radical Equality Act, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will take a stand and oppose it as well.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. LAMBORN, such great remarks, so much common sense there.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN), my friend, and an emergency room physician.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Missouri for her leadership on this very important issue.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I know firsthand that this bill, H.R. 5, will force medical providers to surrender sound medical judgment and their sincerely held convictions to politically fashionable dogmas.

According to the radical activists who seek to enshrine gender identity in the Federal civil rights law, the only appropriate treatment for a child struggling from gender dysphoria is gender reassignment. That is it. Such procedures often lead to irreversible damage, especially in adolescents. But under the Equality Act, medical providers who object to performing these procedures will face crushing legal liability if they refuse to comply. Every medical facility receiving any Federal money will be given an ultimatum: Comply or shut down.

Madam Speaker, if H.R. 5 becomes law, a doctor who refuses to perform a mastectomy or a hysterectomy on an otherwise healthy teenage girl seeking gender reassignment surgery, will be held liable for violating the Federal law.

H.R. 5 even goes so far as to exempt itself from longstanding, bipartisan Federal religious liberty protections—protections both Congress and the Supreme Court have consistently upheld. A Catholic hospital, following the commands of Scripture to serve the frail and the poor will be forced to violate

their very faith to comply and perform abortions or face financial ruin.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I took a sacred oath to do no harm and to preserve the health of those in my care. If this bill becomes law, many doctors will be forced to go against both their conscience and their medical judgment.

Make no mistake, this is a death sentence for medicine and for the sacred rights of conscience. Biology is not bigotry, and medicine is not discrimination.

All Americans who do not wish to see medicine sacrificed to the politically correct orthodoxy should stand up and oppose this bill.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you, Dr. Green. That is excellent. "Biology is not bigotry." It seems like common sense, but we are not talking about common sense with the Equality Act. And that is why we are here tonight, to let the American people know about the ramifications, the very serious, permanent ramifications of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), another doctor, who I am proud to be joined by, who is a dentist from Texas.

Please share your thoughts about this bill and what it is going to mean to Americans.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from Missouri for this opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in objection to the so-called Equality Act. Once again, under the guise of equality, the left is prioritizing its radical agenda over religious freedom, the well-being of children, and the safety of women and girls.

As the father of three daughters and the grandfather of nine granddaughters, I am outraged at the assault that this bill launches on women in sports. And furthermore, as a healthcare practitioner, I am infuriated at its blatant attack on the conscience rights and religious freedoms of those in the healthcare industry.

This bill is not about preventing discrimination in medical treatment, it is about forcing medical professionals to abandon their conscience rights and medical judgment to comply with the left's extreme views on gender.

The Equality Act would prohibit physicians from counseling children with gender dysphoria. Instead, they would be required to administer dangerous medical treatments, including puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgeries.

This mandate contradicts science. Increasingly, we are finding that these treatments compound these children's confusion rather than solving it. The catastrophic effects leave children physically and psychologically scarred and often render them sterile. It is nothing short of child abuse.

The left will not tolerate disagreement with its view on gender. They provide no conscience protections and explicitly state that the Religious

Freedom Restoration Act does not apply to this new definition of sex. Physicians refusing to perform these harmful treatments would be punished, even if they object because of religious or moral convictions.

The Equality Act is another attempt by the left to promote its radical agenda and suppress everyone else who disagrees. We must fight for the conscience rights and religious freedoms of our medical professionals, and we must stop our children from being used as pawns in the game of political correctness.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Well said, and I thank the gentleman so much.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH), the first female president of the Minnesota Senate. She is a mother of two and grandmother of five.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman HARTZLER for putting this together. I appreciate the opportunity in making sure the people in the country understand what is in this bill.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, the so-called Equality Act. The reality of this bill is anything but equal. It is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to force unreasonable mandates on our institutions and restrict the liberties of the American people.

If this becomes law, Americans can expect government-imposed limits on the free exercise of religious liberty, businesses forced to cover the costs of abortions, and medical providers required to perform abortions, even if it conflicts with their deeply held beliefs.

Unfortunately, this is just the tip of the iceberg. So today, I rise to speak on behalf of pro-life Americans in my district and across the country who fear this legislation will be manipulated by the radical left to impose its will and create a right to abortion right up to the moment of birth.

Madam Speaker, a majority of Americans support at least some restrictions on abortion, including making sure taxpayer funds are not used to fund abortions. Instead of respecting the rights of all Americans, this bill will impose a top-down abortion mandate that interferes with the State and Federal laws that protect the right to life and will force doctors, nurses, and other medical providers to participate in abortion procedures, even if it goes against their own sincerely held beliefs.

The previous administration made great strides in protecting religious freedom and the liberties of all Americans. Unfortunately, the new administration does not seem to value those cherished beliefs.

This bill will relegate the pro-life view to discrimination, redefine gender, and require faith-based employers to pay for abortion in their insurance offerings.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this legislation on behalf of the unborn who do

not have a voice. I oppose this legislation on behalf of my constituents, many of whom hold beliefs that are in conflict with this bill's radical ideology. And I oppose this bill on behalf of the millions of Americans who know that life is a God-given gift worth fighting for.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this bill and ask Members to do the same.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you, Representative FISCHBACH. Life is precious, and it is jeopardized under this very poor bill, and so thank you for raising those points.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT), a volunteer counselor to incarcerated women.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

The Equality Act.

Madam Speaker, equality for who?

Where is the equality in this legislation for the young girls across America who have to look behind their backs as they change in their school locker rooms just to make sure there isn't a confused man trying to catch a peek?

Where is the equality for women who have been sexually assaulted?

Under this legislation, their crisis counselor may be "Alexis" who was actually born "Alex." And they will have to talk to him about their assault.

Where is the equality for parents who want and deserve the right to raise their children, free from government overreach?

Under this proposal, Congress seeks to replace mom and dad with bureaucrats. This isn't hyperbole. In Ohio, a mom and dad had their child removed from their custody because they didn't allow their daughter to undergo gender transition. Removed from their custody.

And so here we are. The left will lay down the rights and security of millions of Americans, particularly young women, at the altar of gender ideology.

Following the lead of liberal indoctrination camps, also called colleges and universities, my colleagues on the left are committed to advancing this radical ideology, the rights and sovereignty of individual States be darned. So much for Federalism.

The power-hungry left will not slow down until every school, every church, every workplace, every State, and every community adheres to the left's definition of gender.

You disagree?

They will find you. They will imprison you. Or as we have seen, they will even take your children. And let's make sure the American people know this is only the beginning.

The Equality Act requires doctors to perform abortions, and they are going to use your tax dollars to pay for them.

Once the left codifies their ideology, they will come for your speech. It is already happening in Canada, where you can be fined and imprisoned for misgendering someone.

□ 2030

Madam Speaker, they won't stop there. Nothing will ever satisfy the left until there is complete and total compliance.

Madam Speaker, Scripture says, when speaking of those who have turned their back on God, who have traded the truth for a lie: Professing to be wise, they became fools.

I can think of no better description of the so-called Equality Act, or inequality act, than this. The utter foolishness is astounding. Up is down. Wrong is right. Left is right. Boys are girls and vice versa.

Madam Speaker, for the sake of our sons and daughters, for the sake of parental rights, privacy, decency, and so much more, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this horrendous legislation.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, so well said. Up is down, and right is wrong.

Our last speaker is the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), a doctor of education.

I want to thank the other colleagues who are here. We are running out of time, but I want to thank Representative RICK ALLEN, who objects to this bill, for being here as well.

Dr. FOXX, will you share, in closing, why we should oppose this bill this week? I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, our First Amendment is a powerful instrument that has protected our most sacred freedoms for hundreds of years. Few other countries provide the same protections and freedoms that our First Amendment guarantees. Yet, today, these essential rights are under attack.

H.R. 5 is the latest example of Democrats' misleading and partisan manner of legislating. As a former educator and the Republican leader of the Education and Labor Committee, I can tell you the bill may have "equality" in the title, but it certainly does not serve all Americans.

The Equality Act would empower the government to interfere in how regular Americans think, speak, and act. Specifically, it would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to make sexual orientation and gender identity protected classes.

According to the National Review, this extreme legislation redefines sex to include gender identity, undermines religious freedom, gives males who identify as females the right to women's spaces, and sets a dangerous political precedent for the medicalization of gender-confused youth.

Under H.R. 5, our Nation's K-12 schools would be forced to treat gender as being fluid, subjective, and not tied to biological reality.

Government intervention often causes more harm than good. I've spent my time in Congress working to protect individual freedoms from unnecessary bureaucratic burdens. I recognize that a strong family is vital to our na-

tion's progress and prosperity, which is why I've worked to advance legislation that allows families to flourish and protects life at all stages. It is unconscionable that in America, where we fight for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, we tolerate this systematic extermination of an entire generation. The right to life demands that we protect our Nation's most vulnerable, including the unborn.

Our First Amendment is a powerful instrument that has protected our most sacred freedoms for hundreds of years. Few other countries provide the same protections and freedoms that our First Amendment guarantees. We are the 'land of the free' because of it. Our individual liberties are the envy of people around the world and they are the cornerstone of the world's oldest democracy.

Yet today, these essential rights are under attack.

H.R. 5 is the latest example of Democrats' misleading and partisan manner of legislating.

As a former educator and the Republican Leader of the Education and Labor Committee, I can tell you that the bill may have "equality" in the title, but it certainly does not serve ALL Americans.

This legislation has a clever name and an allegedly noble purpose, but it is a vehicle for serious, harmful consequences.

The Equality Act would empower the government to interfere in how regular Americans think, speak, and act. Specifically, it would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to make sexual orientation and gender identity protected classes. According to the National Review, this extreme legislation "redefines sex to include gender identity, undermines religious freedom, gives males who identify as females the right to women's spaces, and sets a dangerous political precedent for the medicalization of gender-confused youth."

Under H.R. 5, our nation's K-12 schools would be forced to treat gender as being fluid, subjective, and not tied to biological reality.

The bill would undermine Title IX protections for girls by outlawing sex-based athletic competitions.

Even more troubling is the bill's meticulous and intentional destruction of religious freedom protections.

Religiously affiliated colleges and universities that maintain student codes of conduct, hiring practices, or housing rules reflecting sincerely held beliefs about marriage and sexuality risk losing federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory.

Beloved secular private colleges that maintain single sex admissions policies, like Smith College and Morehouse College, could be forced to change their policies or forego federal funding.

In Virginia, we've already seen the displeasure amongst parents regarding such policy implementation. In an opinion piece published by the Washington Post in 2019, a former middle and high school teacher whose children attend Arlington Public Schools said, "It would erode parents' rights over their children's education, corrode Title IX protections for girls and risk convincing healthy, normally developing boys and girls that their bodies are wrong and must be altered with hormones and be vandalized by surgical instruments."

The bill also lacks any pro-life protections, which is why I am submitting my amendment that will protect religiously affiliated groups and

individuals from participating in or funding abortions.

This bill is a brazen attempt to replace longstanding constitutional rights with the identity politics of the moment.

We've entered treacherous waters by considering legislation that stifles proven, bipartisan solutions and, more seriously, our Bill of Rights. It's outrageous that Democrats would advertise these proposals as guaranteeing fundamental civil and legal rights.

Madam Speaker, as elected Representatives, we all strive for equality before the law, but H.R. 5 is another classic example of Democrats passing a bill now and figuring out what it means later.

This is no way to legislate.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, the Equality Act's supporters claim it will protect students from discrimination, but in reality it makes schools more dangerous and unfair for everyone.

By expanding the definition of "sex" to include self-declared gender identity, it requires schools to allow biological males into girls' restrooms, locker rooms, showers, and sport events usually reserved for women.

And by incorporating sexual orientation and gender identity into Title IV of the Civil Rights Act, which appropriately mandates the desegregation of public education, this bill could order the incorporation of radical gender ideology in sex education or other aspects of curriculum, far outside the original law's scope. Activists are already pushing graphic, age-inappropriate content on these topics on students in places like Arlington, Virginia.

This bill puts teachers and administrators at risk too. Those who "misgender" a student or fail to use the individual's preferred pronouns could be accused of harassment and subject to discipline or even lose their jobs.

Girls would also face unfair competition in sports. The Equality Act would force schools to allow biological males to compete on female-only teams.

We have already seen consequences of this. One transgender MMA fighter has broken the skulls of two female opponents (and counting), and transgender runners and basketball players are dominating female competitors, leaving many females' long ambioned goals of trophies and scholarships dashed.

For years, supporters of Title IX have fought to encourage and empower girls through athletic competition. Democrats would like to erase those gains, shattering countless girls' dreams and dignity, to appease the woke mob.

Americans of faith would suffer too. Religiously affiliated colleges and universities that maintain student codes of conduct, hiring practices, or housing rules reflecting their faith's sincerely held beliefs about marriage and sexuality would lose federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory and open them to countless lawsuits to threaten their very existence.

All-female universities, whether religious or secular, would be required to accept male students identifying as female students, and male students identifying as males, since this bill provides no exemptions for female-only institutions. Is that a policy Americans want?

The misnamed Equality Act erases opportunities for girls and women and harms all students and teachers. It must be opposed.

OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous materials on the subject of my Special Order hour.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to open our first Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour of this year, during Black History Month, utilizing to the fullest extent possible: Our Power, Our Message.

I would like to thank the Congressional Black Caucus members for having the confidence to elect me to be chairwoman during the 117th Congress. I stand on the shoulders of greatness as I acknowledge the past members and chairs for their tremendous leadership.

For the next 60 minutes, we have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people about the issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus and the millions of constituents we represent.

Tonight's Special Order hour topic will serve as part of a rollout of our policy agenda and celebrate our 50th anniversary in the context of the many critical issues facing the Black community.

The Congressional Black Caucus kicked off Black History Month, Madam Speaker, with the powerful Travon Free film "Two Distant Strangers," a moving story about a young Black man caught in a George Floyd type of nightmare with his local police department.

During tomorrow's CBC meeting to be held at 12 p.m., the "Living Black History" vignette, featuring all 58 members of the CBC, will be unveiled to the public via Facebook, TheGrio, and my YouTube page.

We are also hosting a virtual film screening of director Lee Daniels' film, "The United State vs. Billie Holiday," tomorrow evening.

In that spirit, later this week, I will be introducing the Black History is American History Act to close out our Black History Month.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the CBC with the largest CBC group ever, 58 members who represent the diversity, hope, and promise of this great Nation. It has been stated before, and it certainly bears repeating, the CBC is commonly referred to as the conscience of the Congress and over the decades has forcefully advocated on policies that our Nation cares about, ranging from economic justice and rep-

arations, healthcare, voting rights, consumer protection, education, and fair policing to far beyond.

The killing of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd drew America closer to another watershed moment last year, amid a pandemic that has disrupted life as we knew it, triggering an intergenerational cross-class collective of people demanding change, which led to the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, a bill that is the first-ever bold, comprehensive approach to hold police accountable, change the culture of law enforcement, empower our communities, and build trust between law enforcement and our communities by addressing systemic racism and biases to help save lives.

I also wear another hat, and that is as chairwoman of the Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee. Though it may speak for itself, I appreciate that kind of transformative change which we seek in the spirit of policy, legislation, and regulation that will, hopefully, result in building a record that we can use as we promote diversity and inclusion in our democracy. As CBC founder member Bill Clay noted, we have no permanent friends or enemies, just permanent interests.

The CBC's priorities will allow us, in many instances, to work with the Biden administration to deliver relief to our constituents who have been so devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic and to work on long-term plans for recovery. To that end, we are so pleased that we will announce our domestic policy team tomorrow, as we have met with Ambassador Susan Rice, who is head of the Biden domestic policy team.

It is so important that I end by saying the Congressional Black Caucus is committed to dramatically reversing these alarming trends by working with our community leaders, allies, and colleagues in Congress to pass critical legislation and by working with the Biden-Harris administration to encourage responsible executive branch policies and actions using Our Power, Our Message.

Now, I am honored to announce our CBC anchors for tonight: Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, a scholar, a strategist, an orator, a woman who has sponsored legislation and helped craft much of the changes that we will be talking about through the 117th Congress; and I am equally as proud to say that the Special Order hour will be co-chaired by her coanchor, Congressman RITCHIE TORRES, a freshman, a member of the Financial Services Committee, a giant in public housing legislation. Tonight, you will hear from them.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE
DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank our illustrious leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, whose visionary leadership is going to carry us into the 117th Congress.

Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY acts legislatively on her history. She is from Ohio, one of the major stops of the Underground Railroad. In fact, Cincinnati, Ohio, has one of the most monumental monuments, if you will, to that freedom train, that courage, of Harriet Tubman. I might say that our chairwoman's actions are in resemblance to Harriet Tubman. We are grateful for her vision.

We will tomorrow, at the Congressional Black Caucus, unveil the talent of tens upon tens of members of the Congressional Black Caucus and lay out our legacy. Our Power, Our Message. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership.

It is as well my honor to be able to co-chair this with, if I might with a degree of familiarity, a brother from the Bronx. I am delighted that a working man's and woman's representative has come to be able to shine, a man who is a product of public housing, public schools, and public hospitals, and who had a dream of lifting up his community and building back a better Bronx.

I am delighted that at 25, against all odds, he became the youngest elected official in New York City and the first openly LGBTQ elected official from the Bronx. He doesn't know that his reputation preceded him as a dynamic gether-done person.

I will repeat his motto before I begin my remarks, and that is RITCHIE TORRES' remarks and life motto is as follows: "My motto is life is simple. If you do nothing, nothing will change."

Wow, what a piercing message for all of us, Republicans and Democrats, to do something good.

His motto is: "If you do nothing, nothing will change. We can build a better Bronx, and we will do it together."

I am delighted to coanchor with Mr. RITCHIE TORRES for the 117th Congress.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am particularly delighted to begin my remarks, as I continue to weave in and out tonight, and then, with my remarks, will yield to Mr. TORRES as well.

This is a moment in history. Tonight, we will explore honoring our 50-year legacy, Our Power, Our Message.

As I was flying up today, I was very happy to find on the movie list on an airplane "Good Trouble," the movie about John Lewis, with so many Members telling their story. I think I will just simply say: Good trouble.

Tonight, we hope to exemplify good trouble as we honor the 50-year legacy of the Congressional Black Caucus and emphasize Our Power, Our Message. We want to be in good trouble.

I am honored in the 117th Congress to chair the Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee and serve as a senior member on the Judiciary Committee, where, in addition to the powers of Congressional Black Caucus, we will seek to have justice rain down like righteous waters.

□ 2045

We will do that, however, with the 55 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I think our numbers are higher than that, and they are all on different committees. Amazing. They will pierce the seams of equality and justice in the 117th Congress. So we will have our past, but we will have our future.

Let me briefly talk about where we were 400 years ago. Ships sailed from the west coast of Africa and in the process began one of mankind's most inhumane practices, human bondage and slavery. Approximately 4 million Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and colonies, that became the United States, from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 to 1865, and certainly American slavery is our original sin. But tonight you will hear woven throughout the remarks of so many of my colleagues, how out of these ashes of enslaved Africans, out of the toll of death from those held in bondage, out of the heroes that fought in the Civil War, who rose up out of the south and the north and came and bled for this Nation, out of that death toll of American fighters who happen to be present and former slaves and suffered indignities, and continue until the end of the 1800s and into Jim Crow-ism, you will find the overcomers.

You will find those who have climbed and clawed their way to leadership. Of course, there will be those who say there is no need for an apology, which is part of H.R. 40, no need for a commission to pierce into these ongoing disparities because you have overcome. In fact, this caucus was founded by overcomers, an array of talented men and women who themselves are the cornerstone of democracy and legitimacy.

Who would ever forget the Honorable Shirley Chisholm, the first woman to run for the Presidency, an African-American woman, Black woman, and a

woman to run for the Presidency, never to be daunted, never to be rejected, never to be denied?

Or William L. Clay, Sr., who chaired the Education and Labor Committee, the first Black man, or the second, to do so.

George W. Collins, a pioneer and powerhouse out of Chicago, Illinois.

John Conyers, the dean of the United States Congress, and the first Member of Congress to hire Rosa Parks, and a Member of Congress—I think it is his distinction alone—to have Dr. Martin Luther King endorse him.

Ron Dellums, he was a man that was told: You sit in the chair with Pat Schroeder, in the Armed Services Committee. We are not interested in you being here in the first place. And Ron Dellums rose to be chair of the Armed Services Committee.

And how much of an overcomer they are: Charles Diggs, the leading man on Africa.

Augustus Hawkins, the leading man on the empowerment of working families.

Again, Ralph Metcalfe, one of the early pioneers of elected Black Members of Congress, again, out of Chicago.

Parren Mitchell, the father of affirmative action.

Robert C. Nix, a pioneer out of Pennsylvania.

Charles B. Rangel, who worked his way up from the streets of Harlem to the U.S. Attorney's Office to then be chair of the Ways and Means Committee.

Lou Stokes, a major force on the Appropriations Committee and healthcare in America.

And, of course, delegate Walter E. Fauntroy, who I met in South Carolina with a commitment to defeat a segregationist who chaired the District of Columbia Committee.

Overcomers, but each of them will say that this definition of who we are should not be on the few, it should be on the many. That means that, we, as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, stand here today to be able to call as our mandate, our challenge, our power, our message, is to be able to lift the opportunities of all African Americans and Black people, and people of color, as we work to ensure that anyone who is denied equality has us, we, the collective body politics, as their champion. That is what tonight is about.

You will hear a number of descriptions of many persons, and you will hear the words of many of us from different parts of the country.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to kick-off this series of CBC Special Order Hours for the 117th Congress with my colleague Congressman RITCHIE TORRES (NY-15) who will serve as co-Anchor.

Tonight, we will explore Honoring our 50 Year legacy Our Power, Our Message.

As chair of the Judiciary Committee's subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security and a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, and a

member of the House Budget Committee, I clearly understand the importance of history and why we should take time to appreciate the path that has led us to this moment.

Four hundred years ago, ships set sail from the west coast of Africa and, in the process, began one of mankind's most inhumane practices: human bondage and slavery.

For two centuries, human beings—full of hopes and fears, dreams and concerns, ambition, and anguish—were transported onto ships like chattel, and the lives of many were forever changed.

The reverberations from this horrific series of acts—a transatlantic slave trade that touched the shores of a colony that came to be known as America, and later a democratic republic known as the United States of America—are unknown and worthy of exploration.

Approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865.

American Slavery is our country's Original Sin and its existence at the birth of our nation is a permanent scar on our country's founding documents, and on the venerated authors of those documents, and it is a legacy that continued well into the last century.

The framework for our country and the document to which we all take an oath describes African Americans as three-fifths a person.

The infamous Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court, issued just a few decades later, described slaves as private property, unworthy of citizenship.

And, a civil war that produced the largest death toll of American fighters in any conflict in our history could not prevent the indignities of Jim Crow, the fire hose at lunch counters, and the systemic and institutional discrimination that would follow for a century after the end of the Civil War.

The mythology built around the Civil War has obscured our discussions of the impact of chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a national dialogue on how to fully account for its place in American history and public policy.

While it is nearly impossible to determine how the lives touched by slavery could have flourished in the absence of bondage, we have certain datum that permits us to examine how a subset of Americans—African Americans—have been affected by the callousness of involuntary servitude.

We know that in almost every segment of society—education, healthcare, jobs, and wealth—the inequities that persist in America are more acutely and disproportionately felt in Black America.

This historic discrimination continues: African-Americans continue to suffer debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships including but not limited to having nearly 1,000,000 black people incarcerated; an unemployment rate more than twice the current white unemployment rate; and an average of less than 1/16 of the wealth of white families, a disparity which has worsened, not improved over time.

These conditions gave rise to a strong believe by Congressman Charlie Diggs that black members of Congress needed a way to make a difference by working together.

The idea for an organization of black elected Members of Congress came from Representative Charles Diggs (D-Mich.) who created the Democracy Select Committee (DSC) in an effort to bring black members of Congress together.

Diggs noticed that he and other African American members of Congress often felt isolated because there were very few of them in Congress, and he wanted to create a forum where they could discuss common political challenges and interests.

Diggs believed that “The sooner we get organized for group action, the more effective we can become.”

The DSC was an informal group that held irregular meetings and had no independent staff or budget, but that changed a few years later.

As a result of court-ordered redistricting, one of several victories of the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act joined by the force of the Civil Rights Movement, the number of African-American Members of Congress rose from nine to 13, the largest number since the end of the Civil War brought reconstruction that paved the way for voting rights for former slaves.

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) was established in 1971 by the following 13 founding members:

1. Rep. Shirley A. Chisholm (D-N.Y.);
2. Rep. William L. Clay, Sr. (D-Mo.);
3. Rep. George W. Collins (D-Ill.);
4. Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.);
5. Rep. Ronald V. Dellums (D-Calif.);
6. Rep. Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (D-Mich.);
7. Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins (D-Calif.);
8. Rep. Ralph H. Metcalfe (D-Ill.);
9. Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.);
10. Rep. Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. (D-Pa.);
11. Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.);
12. Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio); and
13. Del. Walter E. Fauntroy (D-D.C.).

Few recall that before these storied luminaries were elected to Congress, there were other African American Members of Congress immediately following the end of the Civil War who also served in this august body.

1. Robert Brown ELLIOTT 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75)
2. Jefferson Franklin LONG, 41st (1869–71)
3. Joseph Hayne RAINEY, 41st (1869–71), 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77), 45th (1877–79)
4. Hiram Rhodes REVELS, 41st (1869–1871)
5. Robert Carlos DE LARGE 42nd (1871–1873)
6. Robert Brown ELLIOTT, 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75)
7. Benjamin Sterling TURNER, 42nd (1871–1873)
8. Josiah Thomas WALLS, 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77)
9. Richard Harvey CAIN, 43rd (1873–75), 45th (1877–79)
10. John Roy LYNCH, 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77), 47th (1881–83)
11. Alonzo Jacob RANSIER, 43rd (1873–75)
12. James Thomas RAPIER, 43rd (1873–75)
13. Blanche Kelso BRUCE, 44th (1875–77), 45th (1877–79), 46th (1879–81)
14. Jeremiah HARALSON, 44th (1875–77)
15. HYMAN, John Adams 44th (1875–77)
16. Charles Edmund NASH, 44th (1875–77)

At the end of reconstruction, many of these Black members of Congress lost their office

and many others who sought elected office or attempted to vote in public elections lost their lives.

It would take nearly another hundred years until a sufficient number of Federally elected black candidates would return to Congress.

But as too many African Americans know, in some ways, the civil war has never truly ended.

On January 6, 2021, we saw the raw, savage face of the lingering confederacy attempt to put a dagger into the heart of our democracy.

On that day, every belief expressed by this preamble to the Constitution of the United States was at risk of being lost to the hands of a wellcoordinated attack hidden within the ranks of a riotous, murderous mob that invaded and laid siege to U.S. Capitol during the constitutionally required but ministerial act of counting the ballots submitted by the presidential electors of each state and declaring publicly the persons who were by their ballots elected President and Vice-President of the United States.

We all knew the outcome of the 2020 Presidential Election long before January 6, 2021 because of the transparency of each state's election administration and that the Joint Meeting of Congress would simply confirm that Joe Biden had won more than a majority of the electoral votes, along with winning the national popular vote by more than 7 million votes.

The riot came immediately after then-President Trump promoted a march on the Capitol and called his supporters to ‘stop the steal,’ ‘never give up, never concede,’ and to ‘fight like hell’ during a speech that day, asserting that they would not ‘have a country anymore’ if they did not act.

During the breach, Members of Congress were voting to certify then-President-elect Joe Biden's election victory, and many participants in the attack intended to thwart this effort.

Violent participants, incited by the former President's rhetoric, injured scores of D.C. Police and U.S. Capitol Police officers—killing one, while four civilians also died.

The level of violence and passions demonstrated are out of character for a nation that is accustomed to the peaceful transfer of power, especially when the results were so clear—the President had been soundly defeated for reelection.

We did not appreciate how powerful a lie could be in the domain of social media where people can wall themselves off from alternative views and news.

A nation accustomed to the peaceful transfer of power from one presidency to another was unprepared for the enemy within; from a Chief Executive who would attempt to strike at the heart of lawful authority to destroy the union so that he could remain in office.

The underlying currents that led to the siege of the Capitol on January 6, 2021 began with the Compromise of 1876, which ended Reconstruction.

We must have an account of the crimes committed and the exacting of justice to those whose violent acts of rebellion against the authority of the United States resulted in the deaths of six Americans and the desecration and defilement of the Citadel of Democracy.

The injury done to the nation by white supremacists on January 6, 2021, can be linked to the harm they have done to this nation for

well over 100 years beginning with the end of Reconstruction.

The withdrawal of Union troops from the defeated and seditious southern states in 1877 effectively put an end to Reconstruction and ushered in the era deconstruction of any efforts to normalize equal rights under law to former slaves.

This period of American history is obscured by time and characterized by a willful ignorance by governments, media, and academia, of the scale of murder mania that gripped the South during the period before Jim Crow de jure segregation, when the lines were being drawn in the blood of black people that outlined what black people would and would never be allowed to do in American society.

Before they were written into law, the ‘Black Codes’ were shaped by a series of violent acts that occurred in communities large and small throughout the South, leading to tens of thousands of murders and attacks that maimed many because of arbitrary rules of social conduct such as a black man did not tip his hat, get off the sidewalk, spoke to a white person without first being spoken to, or other perceived slights.

The reign of terror visited upon former slaves and their communities began near the end of Reconstruction and resulted in a secret history of the United States that almost erased the gains made by former slaves during the period 1865–1876 that included over 1,500 elected offices held throughout the South.

There were former slaves elected to serve in the 41st and 42nd Congresses of the United States, most of whom were denied reelection to office once Jim Crow laws limited access to voting for former slaves.

It was unnatural for black communities to have gone silent in the body politic after the strides made by newly freed slaves in engaging in political discourse but that silence was caused by the tens of thousands of singular and mass murders and lynchings that occurred after the end of Reconstruction and continued well into the 20th Century.

The 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre that killed hundreds of blacks is another example of what a mob stirred by racial amano can do to African Americans who only crime was living a prosperous and economically independent American Dream.

African American history has a long, painful and bloody path that clearly exhibits how violent the Confederacy was, and we have fought a cold civil war for over 156 years, which today is on the verge of turning hot.

Evidence of the desperation of black people to escape the drudgery of the south is evident by the greatest self migration of people within the United States known as the Great Migration, which saw the relocation of more than 6 million African Americans from the rural South to the cities of the North, Midwest and West from about 1916 to 1970.

The push to leave family and communities in the south was motivated by a deep desire to escape the yoke of the cold civil war; and the pull to go to other parts of the nation was a chance to live free of fear, which translated into black people who were allowed to pursue the American Dream.

This is why for millions of Americans it was shameful, painful and a disgrace that the Confederate battle flag was paraded in the Capitol of the United States by Trump's motley band of disloyalists, something that hundreds of

thousands of true patriots gave the last full measure of devotion to prevent in the crucible years of the civil war from 1861 to 1865.

The lynchings, beatings, rapes, burnings, joined with roadblocks to advancements that would afford African American people basic human rights such as fair wages, food, shelter, education, economic opportunity, healthcare, due process and equal treatment under the law, were denied for much of our history.

The goals of this cold civil war were simple: it was to end or frustrate any effort by society to create a world where black people are free and have full rights as citizens of the United States.

The threat of a hot civil war comes from the majority of Americans accepting that African Americans have a place in America, and a right to pursue the American Dream.

The shift in American values and views regarding race have come very slowly with advances and setbacks until the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 created space and time to reestablish voting rights for black voters that continues to be under threat.

In this latter respect, the Insurrection of January 6 sought to duplicate the Compromise of 1876 because in both cases adherents of white supremacy sought to retain and monopolize political power by disenfranchising and disempowering millions of black Americans, throughout the South in 1876 and in the urban centers of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Georgia in 2020.

The threat of a hot civil war stems from the fear of white supremacists that a growing majority of Americans accept that African Americans have an equal right and entitlement to the blessings of liberty because they are full members of the American political community.

January 6, 2021, was not the first time that white supremacists attacked to overthrow duly elected white and black public officials. In 1898, in Wilmington, North Carolina and again in Colfax, Louisiana in 1873, the election of diverse slates of statewide candidates to public office triggered violent white mobs to attack and murder newly elected officials.

The Colfax Massacre, sometimes referred to euphemistically as the Colfax Riot, occurred on Easter Sunday, April 13, 1873, in Colfax, Louisiana, the seat of Grant Parish, where between 62 and 153 black men were murdered by racist white vigilantes calling themselves a militia.

Three white men also died in the confrontation, with at least one said to have been shot by his own ally.

In the wake of the contested 1872 election for governor of Louisiana and local offices, a group of white Democrats armed with rifles and a small cannon, overpowered Republican freedmen and black state militia occupying the Grant Parish courthouse in Colfax.

Most of the freedmen were murdered after they surrendered; nearly 50 were killed later that night after being held prisoners for several hours.

Estimates of the number of dead have varied, ranging from 62 to 153. The exact number of black victims was difficult to determine because many bodies were thrown into the Red River or mass gravesites.

Reconstruction ended in 1877 and by 1898 the protection afforded newly freed slaves to participate as equal citizens in casting ballots

in public elections that allowed for the election of black and white candidates ceased to exist.

White supremacists who ran as candidates in 1898, but lost their elections used mob violence to take the offices from the duly elected officials, sparking the Wilmington insurrection, also known as the Wilmington Massacre of 1898 or the Wilmington Coup of 1898.

The similarities between what happened on January 6, and the events of 1898 are striking in that both featured a mass riot and insurrection carried out by white supremacists.

The mass riot carried out by white supremacists on January 6, 2021, sought to overturn an election where black voters played a significant role in electing Joseph Biden and KAMALA HARRIS as President and Vice President of the United States.

Furthermore, to add injury to their racist sensibilities, the preceding day, January 5, 2021, the state of Georgia elected its first African American and Jewish U.S. Senators during a special election.

Today, we see the potential for the 1898 level of violence against the entire Congress, which has become the most diverse deliberative body in our nation's history.

Since the attack, the FBI has identified more than 400 individuals out of an estimated 800 who illegally entered the Capitol on January 6, 2021. As of January 27, 2021, the FBI's Washington Field Office has confirmed that more than 150 criminal cases against those individuals have been filed.

Although some reporting initially contradicted Justice Department officials' public statements regarding aggressive efforts to charge all those involved in the criminal activity, acting U.S. Attorney Michael Sherwin reaffirmed the Department's commitment on January 26, 2021, stating "[r]egardless of the level of criminal conduct, we're not selectively targeting or just trying to charge the most significant crime . . . [i]f a crime was committed we are charging you, whether you were outside or inside the Capitol."

The long and blood history of white supremacy requires an approach that holds individuals accountable for their actions as a means of ending the lure of the mob as a tool of violence against targets of interest.

Reports that cite that over a hundred current or former members of the military were involved in the riot at the Capitol are shocking to some.

Unfortunately, this aspect of white supremacist violence was evident by violence committed by Proud Boys and Boogaloo adherents made clear their objectives.

My efforts to focus the attention of the military on this link was evident in an amendment I offered to the NDAA for FY2021 that was adopted.

This Jackson Lee Amendment included in the House version of the NOAA directed the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress the extent, if any, of the threat to national security posed by domestic terrorist groups and organizations motivated by a belief system of white supremacy, such as the Boogaloo and Proud Boys extremists is reflected in the Conference bill.

The NDAA conference identified that the FBI is under statutory obligation, established by Section 5602 of the NDAA FY 2020 (Public Law 116–92), to complete a report that would better characterize the domestic terrorist threat by requiring the FBI and the Department of

Homeland Security in consultation with the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), to produce a set of comprehensive reports over 5 years.

The report is to include: a strategic intelligence threat internal to the United States; metrics on the number and type of incidents, coupled with resulting investigations, arrests, prosecutions and analytic products, copies of the execution of domestic terrorism investigations; detailed explanations of how the FBI, DHS and NCTC prioritize the domestic terrorism threats and incident; and descriptions regarding the type and regularity of training provided by the FBI, DHS, or NCTC to other Federal, State and local law enforcement.

The conferees noted that the report has not been delivered to the appropriate committees, and they urged the FBI Director to deliver the report without delay.

The Jackson Lee Amendment to the NDAA FY 2021 sought the same information that is required under the NDAA FY 2020 because of the threat posed by accelerationists and militia extremists who comprise a range of violent anti-government actors, movements and organizations, some of which branch out of decades-old ideologies and others of which are relatively new has led to violent engagement of law enforcement.

My concern is that in the aftermath of a historic national election, the activity of violence influencers like Boogaloo Boys or Proud Boys will increase and lead to attacks becoming more frequent.

In 2018, we saw too many instances of violent extremists searching for opportunities to sow violence and disrupt democratic processes.

Boogaloo and Proud Boys are targeting constitutionally protected activity for cooption or to provide cover for attacks.

HONORING OUR 50-YEAR LEGACY: OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE

LIST OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN THE 117TH CONGRESS:

The work of the 117th Congress is just begun, but the list of unfinished business is long:

Ending the COVID-19 by Ending Healthcare Disparities;

Passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act;

Criminal Justice Reform;

Funding to complete the restoration of a safe drinking water system for Flint, Michigan; Enactment of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act;

Immigration Reform.

The United States is a work in progress, as stated in the preamble to the Constitution:

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States.

African Americans have fought in every war this nation has faced knowing that they were not afforded the same rights and freedoms of white Americans.

We comprise thirteen percent of the population of the United States, and yet experience a higher rate of incarceration, health disparities, more vulnerable to economic slowdowns, and even more likely to get COVID-19 and have much worse health outcomes.

Disparities tell the story of living while black in America.

Disparities in maternity mortality, in the care we receive from doctors when we are in pain caused by Sickle Cell anemia, or present with serious symptoms like Ebola as was the case with Thomas Eric Duncan who went to a Dallas Area hospital for treatment.

Disparities in the spread of COVID-19 are killing Black people at a much higher rate than our percentage of the population in states reporting demographic data.

Since that time, we have seen a pandemic sweep the country, taking more than 500,000 souls in its wake and devastating the African American community.

According to the latest estimates from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Black people get COVID-19 at a rate nearly one and a half times higher than that of white people, are hospitalized at a rate nearly four times higher, and are three times as likely to die from the disease.

Interestingly, a recent peer-reviewed study from Harvard Medical School suggests that reparations for African Americans could have cut COVID-19 transmission and infection rates both among Blacks and the population at large.

Their analysis, based on Louisiana data, determined that if reparations payments had been made before the COVID-19 pandemic, narrowing the wealth gap, COVID-19 transmission rates in the state's overall population could have been reduced by anywhere from 31 percent to 68 percent.

I include in the RECORD an article detailing the results of a Harvard Study that found that reparations for slavery could have reduced COVID-19 infections and deaths in US from between 31–68 percent.

There are disparities in every aspect of African American life and death.

Between 1980 and 2015, the number of people incarcerated in America increased from roughly 500,000 to over 2.2 million.

Today, the United States makes up about 5 percent of the world's population and has 21 percent of the world's prisoners.

1 in every 37 adults in the United States, or 2.7 percent of the adult population, is under some form of correctional supervision.

In 2014, African Americans constituted 2.3 million, or 34 percent of the total 6.8 million correctional population.

African Americans are incarcerated at more than 5 times the rate of whites.

The imprisonment rate for African American women is twice that of white women.

Nationwide, African American children represent 32 percent of children who are arrested,

42 percent of children who are detained, and 52 percent of children whose cases are judicially waived to criminal court.

Though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately 32 percent of the US population, they comprised 56 percent of all incarcerated people in 2015.

In African Americans and Hispanics were incarcerated at the same rates as whites, prison and jail populations would decline by almost 40 percent.

We will have special orders throughout this Congress that can delve more deeply in the aspect of live in America through discussions on H.R. 40.

In 1989, Congressman John Conyers introduced "The Commission to Study Reparation

Proposals for African Americans Act, which later became known as H.R. 40, in remembrance of the Gen. Sherman's 1865 Special Field Order No. 15 to redistribute 400,000 acres of formerly Confederate owned coastal land in South Carolina and Florida, subdivided into 40 acre plots.

In 2019, I reintroduced an updated H.R. 40 entitled "Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act," noting that in the 30 years since the bill's original introduction, sufficient evidence has been assembled to not just study but also develop proposals for a remedy.

H.R. 40 allows for the first constructive scholarly conversation on race that is clearly needed in the U.S. today and the ability to take a moment in 250 years for a full discussion or analysis of economic, political, psychological, scientific, and sociological effects of slavery in the U.S. It acknowledges the fundamental injustice and inhumanity of slavery in the U.S. and establishes a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans. The Commission is also charged to make recommendations to Congress on appropriate remedies.

H.R. 40 follows the successful model of the reparations campaign for Japanese-Americans interned during WWII. The campaign began with a 1980 congressional bill establishing a commission to investigate the internment, evaluate and consider the amount and form reparations would take, and make recommendations to the Congress for remedy. Based on the Commission's findings, President Reagan signed into law the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The bill formally apologized to Japanese-Americans, authorized the payment of \$20,000 to each Japanese-American detention camp survivor; instituted a trust fund to educate Americans about the suffering of the Japanese-Americans; and issued pardons to all those who resisted detention camp internment.

The nation over the last twelve months has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken too many lives, devastated the economy, and put millions at risk of greater hardship due to the death of a loved one, unemployment, loss of health care or forgone education opportunities.

Hidden in these numbers are the health disparities that have plagued African Americans for generations.

Today, with a heavy heart our nation sadly marks the loss of 500,000 American lives to the coronavirus: an unimaginable human toll in our modern era of medical and technological advances. These deaths are of staggering proportions and cause incomprehensible sadness, but we cannot think of them as the end of COVID-19. As we have learned COVID-19 can surge again claiming even more lives. This is why we cannot be complacent or accepting of so much death without continuing to fight.

Every life lost is a profound tragedy and earth-shattering moment in the lives of families, neighborhoods, and communities that touch each of us in countless ways as we mourn and console our family members, co-workers, neighbors and friends.

Today, I joined my colleagues of the House to observe a moment a silence on the steps

of the Capitol for the 500,000 lives lost. Members of Congress joined Americans in prayer for the lives lost or devastated by this vicious virus. As we pray, we must commit ourselves, in memory of those we have lost, to wearing face coverings, observing social distance, washing of hands-and most importantly getting the vaccine when it is our time to do so as a pledge to all who have been taken from us far too soon that we will act swiftly to put an end to this pandemic and to stem the suffering felt by so many.

My commitment is to save lives and also livelihoods through public and personal action. As Texans work to overcome the tragic winter disaster that befell the state last week, I wrote to President Biden asking that he grant the state's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, which he did and today FEMA is on the ground providing water delivery, food distribution, and other vital services to help Texans get back on their feet.

I also encourage those who have lost health insurance during the economic crisis created by COVID-19 pandemic to take advantage of the extended enrollment period for getting health insurance through [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), which is open until May 15, 2021. Currently, 36 states are using [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov). Since President Biden announced the creation of the Special Enrollment Period for [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), all 14 states and D.C. that have their own state-based marketplaces have announced that they would also have Special Enrollment Periods.

Questions about how justice is served to different communities in our nation came into stark focus with the horrifying killing of George Floyd on May 25, 2020 by a Minneapolis police officer, which shocked and awakened the moral consciousness of the nation.

Untold millions have seen the terrifying last 8 minutes and 46 seconds of life drained from a black man, George Floyd, taking his last breaths face down in the street with his neck under the knee of a police officer who, along with his three cohorts, was indifferent to his cries for help and pleas that he "can't breathe."

In direct response, civil protests against police brutality occurred in cities large and small all across the nation.

It is clear that the times that we find ourselves in demand action, and that is precisely what my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, on the House Judiciary Committee, and Congressional Democrats did by introducing H.R. 7120, the Justice in Policing Act of 2020 in the 116th Congress.

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act will be reintroduced this Congress to complete the work this nation has already begun in bringing justice to the criminal justice system.

And every day, we use our power and our message to lift up these important issues that are facing our nation, and we ask those who are listening and watching to make these efforts your own.

Criminal Justice Reform is a pressing issue that Congress must address.

As Judge Learned Hand observed, "If we are to keep our democracy, there must be one commandment: thou shalt not ration justice."

Reforming the criminal justice system so that it is fairer and delivers equal justice to all persons is one of the great moral imperatives of our time.

For reform to be truly meaningful, we must look at every stage at which our citizens interact with the system—from policing in our communities and the first encounter with law enforcement, to the charging and manner of attaining a conviction, from the sentence imposed to reentry and collateral consequences.

House Democrats, led by House Judiciary Committee Chair JERROLD NADLER and myself, as Chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, have accepted and embraced the challenge of reforming the criminal justice system and developed many innovative legislative remedies to correct many of the most glaring inequities and racial disparities in the most critical areas of the system.

This is an important topic and one that Congress must turn its attention to with urgency and unity of effort to:

- address the harms caused;
- get an accounting of what happened;
- understand how the water was poisoned;
- make the lives of people damaged by this tragedy whole;
- find justice for those lives that may have been lost; and
- determine and provide for the long-term health needs of those impacted.

Today, the water in Flint, Michigan is not safe to drink and we have no concrete answer on when it may be safe to drink in the future.

Flint, Michigan like so many communities across the nation really felt the brunt of the financial crisis created by the abuse of new home lending practices and deceptive investment schemes that hid the weaknesses in the economy until the great recession spread across the nation beginning in late 2008.

The financial damage done to communities like Flint in the form of steep declines in property values, which caused significant declines in property tax income.

This was not just Flint's problem, but a national reality—for financially strapped cities, towns, school boards, and municipal governments who rely on Congress to fund all 12 Congressional appropriations bills to provide them with much needed revenue to meet the needs of their citizens.

In the 51 years since its passage on August 6, 1965, the Voting Rights Act has safeguarded the right of Americans to vote and stood as an obstacle to many of the more egregious attempts by certain states and local jurisdictions to game the system by passing discriminatory changes to their election laws or administrative policies.

In signing the Voting Rights Act on August 6, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson said:

"The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men."

But on June 25, 2013, the Supreme Court decided *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 193 (2013), which invalidated Section 4(b) of the VRA, and paralyzed the application of the VRA's Section 5 preclearance requirements, which protect minority voting rights where voter discrimination has historically been the worst. Since 1982, Section 5 has stopped more than 1,000 discriminatory voting changes in their tracks, including 107 discriminatory changes in Texas.

Although much progress has been made with regard to Civil Rights, there is still much

work to be done in order to prevent systemic voter suppression and discrimination within our communities, and we must remain ever vigilant and oppose schemes that will abridge or dilute the precious right to vote.

H.R. 885, 'VOTING RIGHTS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2015,' of which I am an original co-sponsor, repairs the damage done to the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court decision and is capable of winning majorities in the House and Senate and the signature of the President.

This legislation replaces the old 'static' coverage formula with a new dynamic coverage formula, or 'rolling trigger,' which effectively gives the legislation nationwide reach because any state and any jurisdiction in any state potentially is subject to being covered if the requisite number of violations are found to have been committed.

For millions of Americans, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is sacred treasure, earned by the sweat and toil and tears and blood of ordinary Americans who showed the world it was possible to accomplish extraordinary things.

I want to thank my colleagues, Chairwoman BEATTY of the CBC, and my co-Anchor, Representative TORRES, for participating in this Special Order on these important topics.

[From the Harvard Civil Rights—Civil Liberties Law Review, June 10, 2020]

WHY WE CAN'T WAIT

(By Mo Light)

In May 1920, Henry Scott, a middle-aged Negro, was working as a Pullman porter in Florida when a mob seized and lynched him because a white woman said he insulted her.[1] Scott said that she had asked for his help arranging her seat on a train while he was busy arranging another woman's seat. He asked her to wait. The white woman called the police and told them that Scott had insulted her. From there the story followed the usual lynching pattern: A deputy sheriff arrested Scott and then a white mob "overpowered" the deputy sheriff and took Scott from police custody. The mob then ridged Scott with "forty or fifty bullets." [2] The jury returned the typical verdict: not guilty.[3]

Recently, another middle-aged Black man was working when he was seized and lynched. George Floyd was lynched by police officers after a store employee accused him of buying cigarettes with counterfeit money. He protested to the store employee that this was not true. But the teenage employee refused to believe him and proceeded to call the police. From there the story followed the all-too-common policing pattern: Police officers who swore an oath to serve and protect lynched a Black man while their colleagues stood by in silence.

Two stories, one hundred years apart. In this time, America has shot forward scientifically and technologically. America put a man on the moon, found vaccines and cures for deadly diseases, invented the computer, and revolutionized technology. But throughout this time, America has left Black Americans behind in the shadows. For Black Americans, too little has changed in the last sixty or so years. They are still dreaming that one day they will be judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin, all while living through a constant nightmare. Henry Scott is George Floyd and George Floyd is Henry Scott. And that is why we can't wait.

Black Americans have been and will continue to be severely disappointed with the slow pace of change. Before the Civil War, Richard Allen, Robert Purvis, Frederick

Douglass, and many other Negro abolitionists and leaders were told to wait. After Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, slaves still toiled the fields through at least 1865.[4]

The government promised the Negro "forty acres and a mule" but instead gave the Negro "separate but equal." [5] The Negro knew that in 1954 the Supreme Court called for the desegregation of schools "with all deliberate speed" but was met with all deliberate delay.[7] The Voting Rights Act of 1965 has all but failed to live up to its potential.[7] In 2020, police officers are still disproportionately killing Black people.[8] If we respond to this oppression with the same methods we have used in the past, we will sing the same chants, march through the same streets, and demand the same justice in 20, 40, 60 years. For over 100 years we have heard "change will come." Words that consistently ring hollow. The People must do everything they can to prevent another innocent person from dying at the hands of the police or white supremacists.

The idea that the People must engage radical methods of change, change that accepts all action except violence as legitimate, has generated a great deal of apprehension to many Americans. But lest we forget our history, one should be reminded that America's birth and continued existence is a never-ending dance with radicalness and extremism. Ideas that were once shunned as too radical are now lauded as examples for others. Was not Patrick Henry an extremist: "Give me liberty or give me death." [9] Was not the Declaration of Independence radical when it stated that it is "the Right of the People to alter or abolish" the government if it became destructive to equality.[10] Our Founding Fathers listed in the Declaration the King of England's crimes that spurred and legitimized the American Revolution—including the Crown's "protect[ion] of [his soldiers], by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States." [11] Was it not Thomas Jefferson who wrote to William Smith and said, "what country can preserve its liberties, if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance?" [12] Was not Abraham Lincoln called radical when he said, "I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free." [13] And was not Dr. King considered one of the most radical and most hated men in America? [14] History has been kind to these men and so, too, will history be kind to us.

Black Americans and their allies can't wait for perfect adherence from their movement on how one should engage in radical change. "No revolution is executed like a ballet," said Dr. King, "[i]ts steps and gestures are not neatly designed and precisely performed." [15] There will be violent elements in every revolution, but the majority of those revolting are doing so nonviolently. And more importantly, the oppressor is responsible for the violence of the oppressed. The oppressor is responsible for the American Revolution and the Civil Rights Movement. The Revolutions of 1848 were formed by ad hoc groups of the middle-class, workers, and commoners. They did not act with perfect discipline, but we nonetheless celebrate those radicals' tenacity and vision.[16]

The necessity of Black Americans and their allies forming a movement for radical change is difficult for many to swallow. It is difficult because too many Americans do not understand the centrality of radical change to American history. They sit in the shade of trees they did not plant, warm themselves by fires they did not light, and drink from wells they did not dig.[17] They profit from persons they do not know, and they build upon

foundations that they did not lay.[18] But Black Americans know this difficult truth: radical change is the only acceptable change. They are keenly aware that their struggle for equality and justice is a never-ending battle. Black Americans are resentful because after all these years they must constantly push for change or be pushed back into the shadows. Black Americans are the seeds that go unwatered and still rise. The soil not tilled but still fertile. You can't ask us to be patient with change anymore or to play by your rules because Black Americans have been patient from John Castor to Henry Scott to George Floyd to —.

[1] Ralph Ginzburg, 100 Years of Lynching 130–31 (1962).

[2] *Id.*

[3] *Id.*

[4] Shennette Garrett-Scott et al., “When Peace Came”: Teaching the Significance of Juneteenth, 76 Black History Bulletin 1, 19–23 (2013).

[5] *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537, 552 (1896).

[6] Martin Luther King, Jr., *Why We Can't Wait* 3 (1963).

[7] *See Shelby Cty., Ala. v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013).

[8] *See* Deidre McPhillips, Deaths From Police Harm Disproportionately Affect People of Color, U.S. News & World Report (June 3, 2020) <https://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2020-06-03/data-show-deaths-from-police-violence-disproportionately-affect-people-of-color>.

[9] William Wirt, *Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry* 123 (1817).

[10] The Declaration of Independence para. 2 (U.S. 1776).

[11] *Id.*

[12] Letter from Thomas Jefferson to William Smith (Nov. 13, 1787), in *Quotes by and about Thomas Jefferson* (1998).

[13] Abraham Lincoln, A House Divided Speech at Springfield, Illinois (June 16, 1858).

[14] Tavis Smiley, The One Single Thing Donald Trump and Martin Luther King, Jr. Have in Common, *Time* (Dec. 1, 2017, 11:09 AM), <https://time.com/5042070/donald-trump-martin-luther-king-mlk/>.

[15] King, *supra* note 6, at 140.

[16] *See* Melvin Kranzberg, 1848: A Turning Point? xii, xvii–xviii (1962).

[17] *See* Deuteronomy 6:10–12 (King James) (adapted by Rev. Dr. Peter S. Raible).

[18] *Id.*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES).

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of an institution like no other, the Congressional Black Caucus.

I am honored to be in the presence of fierce and formidable public servants like the CBC chair, JOYCE BEATTY, and today's anchor, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Madam Speaker, I thank her for those inspiring words. I thank her for reminding us of the long and rich history of the CBC, a history that continues to inspire us all.

Madam Speaker, I am also honored to be here in the presence of my brother, MONDAIRE JONES. You know, in the history of the United States Congress there have only been about 163 Black Members of Congress, and none of them were openly LGBTQ until the election of MONDAIRE JONES and myself. So I am

proud to join my brother in making history in the 117th Congress.

You know, before I was Congressman RITCHIE TORRES, before I was Councilman RITCHIE TORRES, I am and will always be the son of the most powerful woman I know, Debra Bosolet, my mother. And the most important lesson that my mother taught me is never forget where you come from. Never forget where your roots lie. And my roots are in the Bronx. Even when I leave the Bronx for Washington, D.C., the Bronx never leaves me.

I was born, bred, and battle-tested in the boogie down Bronx. And I have the high honor of representing New York's 15, the south Bronx, which for too long has been ground zero for racially concentrated poverty. The unemployment rate in the south Bronx could be as high as 25 percent, comparable to the joblessness of the Great Depression.

More than half the residents in the Bronx pay more than half their income toward their rent, and that is before you factor in the cost of prescription drugs and utilities, and food, and all the bare necessities of life. And even though the south Bronx has long been known to be the poorest congressional district in America, COVID-19 has shown the south Bronx to be the essential congressional district.

It is the home of essential workers who put their lives at risk during the peak of the pandemic so that most of us could safely shelter in place. And our mission, as the CBC, should be to give those essential workers, who are overwhelmingly women of color, a fighting chance at a decent and dignified life.

You know, I never thought as a poor kid of color from the Bronx that I would embark on a journey that would take me from public housing in the Bronx to the people's House in Washington, D.C. And I never thought that as a Congress Member I would live through an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol.

Now, on January 6, we were reminded that there are two competing realities that define America. There is the reality of multiracial democracy. America is slowly emerging as a multiracial, multiethnic, LGBTQ-inclusive democracy. Seventy percent of the Democratic Caucus consists of people of color, women, and members of the LGBTQ Caucus.

But then there is the reality of white supremacy, which reared its ugly head on January 6. And, for me, the scene on the U.S. Capitol was not simply an attack on a physical structure, it was an attack on the very idea of America as a multiracial democracy. And it is that vision of America that, we, as the CBC, are charged with defending.

And despite the overwhelming shock and despair that I felt on January 6, Madam Speaker, I have hope. The inauguration was reason for hope. The image of KAMALA HARRIS, a Black woman in the Vice-Presidency, being sworn in by Sonia Sotomayor of the

United States Supreme Court, is a powerful encapsulation of how far we have come, of how much we have achieved. And that moment reminds us that the future of our country does not belong to white supremacy. The future of our country belongs to multiracial democracy.

And the Congressional Black Caucus will continue to be at the forefront of making America the more perfect multiracial union that it ought to be. In the words of the CBC chair: Our Power, Our Message.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman very much for his powerful words and his very prominent focus on the idea that you are from the Bronx, but the spirit of the Bronx cannot be taken from you, and that your commitment and your assessment of this country will be defined in your way, not in the way of white supremacists, domestic terrorists, or insurrectionists.

Madam Speaker, I think more than ever he has captured an important moment by saying he has hope, and that is what the Congressional Black Caucus represents for the millions of Americans that we represent. He is right, our constituency is multicultural, they come from many different perspectives, they are Black, they are African American—they may be desired to be called—they are Latinx, they are Hispanic, they are Anglo, they are White, they are Southeast Asian, they are Asian Pacific, they are LGBTQ, and they are varied. That is what we are here today to stand for.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JONES), a distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee, among other committees, and a scholar in his own right, a lawyer, and someone who has been able to be trained in the ways of the law, but whose heart is vested in the ways of justice. I am delighted to yield to my colleague for his time on the floor in this wonderful momentous occasion.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished co-chair of this incredible Special Order sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus for those very kind words.

I will say, as someone who has spent most of his life following the work of this Black Caucus, it is an honor to finally join the legends, the luminaries who helped to inspire my own run for the United States Congress. Thank you.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the CBC for holding this hour to reflect on Black history. I want to share, in particular, the story of a young lawyer who came to the village of Hillburn in Rockland County, New York, during his fight to desegregate our public schools.

□ 2100

Like many places in 1943, the Village of Hillburn had a main school for White children. It was called the Hillburn School. And it had a school for children

of color without a library, a playground, or indoor plumbing. That was called the Brook School.

But our elders did not accept this. They fought back. Parents of the Brook School children organized and, with the help of a young attorney with the NAACP's legal defense fund, they sued the district. With the help of their lawyer, the parents of the Brook School children won their fight against segregation in a case that helped to lay the groundwork for *Brown v. Board of Education* 11 years later.

Who was this young lawyer who came to the Village of Hillburn?

He was the man who would later become our Nation's first Supreme Court Justice who was Black: Thurgood Marshall.

I am moved by the story because it shows how Black history creates Black futures, how the courage and resistance of the Black leaders of years past are the reason a poor Black kid from Rockland County now stands in this special Chamber as the United States Congress Member representing that same school district today.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman JONES so very much for that powerful statement. A powerful statement, obviously, a lawyer's lawyer to bring to our attention the great leadership of Justice Thurgood Marshall, civil rights attorney Thurgood Marshall, from a lawyer whom we know will continue to promote justice now as a legislator.

Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to just put in the RECORD really the historical description of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Since its establishment in 1971, the Congressional Black Caucus has been committed to using the full constitutional power, statutory authority, and financial resources of the Federal Government to ensure that Black Americans and other marginalized communities in the United States have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

As part of this commitment, the CBC has fought in the past 50 years to empower citizens and address their legislative concerns by nursing a policy agenda that is inclusive, pragmatic, effective, and resonates with the American people.

Just for a moment, I would like to comment on the dangerous interrelatedness of race and the insurrectionist day of January 6.

We are on the floor because we have a unique history. We are a multiranged people and a multicultural people. We are individuals whose heritage is intertwined with other backgrounds. We are African Americans. We are Caribbean Americans. And in terms of African Americans, we are Caribbean Blacks, if you will. We come from all over the world, but we come to America and we are described by a singular history.

And if we have come with a singular history, I think it is important to intertwine what happened on January

6. Shockingly, Madam Speaker, those who came to object—so they say—to the duly qualified and legitimate election of President Joe Biden and, of course, Vice President Harris, they, of course, came allegedly with that proposition. But, at the same time, I am stunned by the words of a police officer by the name of Mr. Harry Dunn—courageous and brave with so many others—who indicated: The rioters called me the n-word dozens of times.

So here we are 50 years celebrating the Congressional Black Caucus. Here we are defenders of democracy. Many of our Members are former members of the United States military, having gone into battle, or our family members have. Many fell in as early a war as World War I, World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and other wars in between. We shed our blood for this country.

And the so-called people who came and said they just wanted some democracy, they believed that their candidate won, but they took enough time to call the sons and daughters of enslaved Africans, who wear the uniform defending democracy, the n-word.

They took time to carry a fake flag, calling it the Confederate flag when it is a symbol in the 1960s of the harshness and brutality of segregation and the Klan. They took time to bring that flag to the United States Congress, in the midst of the highest number of elected persons of color, persons who are descendants in many different ways of enslaved Africans.

But here I wanted to mention Mr. Dunn's name. There were many others who were beaten that day. I honor them, and we will honor them as time goes. This night, tonight, we mention this gentleman who said most powerfully—Harry Dunn recalled the sickening events of January 6—when he says that the level of racist abuse he suffered caused him to break down in tears, but he was not broken. His quote was: "Y'all failed."

That is my message today. All of the brutality that we may have experienced, which I will talk about in a moment, all of it failed. That is why we are here today fighting in the Education and Labor Committee; fighting in the Science, Space, and Technology Committee; fighting in the Ways and Means Committee; fighting in the Energy and Commerce Committee; the Judiciary; the Interior; the Armed Services Committee; the Oversight and Reform Committee; and the Budget Committee, where you will see our presence.

We are fighting for America, but we are the conscience that drives the reality that there are more people to be concerned about than those of us in this Chamber. That there are mothers and father who work every day, who don't see the fruit of their labor. There are children who clamor for education, but it is not there.

There are soldiers who need to have the line of hierarchy and the route to

promotion and elevation, who don't get it. There are businesspersons who have brilliant ideas, but can't access the capital. There are incarcerated persons who are not guilty, but are still incarcerated.

There are doors of college institutions closed. There are people who want to do better with a new house, but still, in the 21st century, are redlined. And there are many who want to go places and cannot go, who are African American.

No, we are not complaining. We are trying to explain how much has been done by people who have had this kind of history. It is important to take note of that.

Madam Speaker, may I have the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Texas has 24 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), if he will carry forth.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, as always, for the inspiration of words.

Our colleague, Congressman JONES, spoke earlier of *Brown v. Board of Education*. *Brown v. Board of Education* was the first legal case I ever read. In high school, I participated in a form of legal debate known as moot court, which taught me how to think, read, write, and speak critically and artfully. I will never forget after reading *Brown v. Board of Education* how inspired I felt, those words in the field of education: Separate but equal is inherently unequal.

Those words inspired me to see myself—as a young Black man—as a public servant and maybe one day as a Member of the United States Congress.

But I have to be honest. If you had said to me 1 year ago that I would become a Member of Congress during an infectious disease outbreak, that I would witness an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol during the electoral college vote count, and that I would then vote to impeach an outgoing President who had been impeached once before, I would have said that sounds a lot like a movie.

So this has been the most draining and disorienting beginning for any freshman class in the modern history of the United States Congress, but I am nevertheless honored to be here.

January 6 is a reminder that the mission of the CBC takes on a renewed urgency. The Congress Member and I sit on the Homeland Security Committee, and one of our highest priorities is going to be counterterrorism. During one of our recent hearings, I made the observation that America has a pattern of willful blindness toward white supremacist extremism as a form of domestic terror.

Even though the statistics have been clear that white supremacist extremism has been the dominant driver of violence in the United States for decades, the U.S. Government did not designate a white supremacist group as a

terrorist organization until 2020. 2020. Never mind the massacre against African Americans, against Latinos, and against members of the LGBTQ community. It took the Federal Government until 2020 to finally recognize white supremacy as a form of domestic terrorism.

I am often asked: Whom do you admire in history?

The gentlewoman brought up the Underground Railroad, and I am a great admirer of Harriet Tubman, who, as the architect of the Underground Railroad, is America's Moses. She was a genuine liberator of an enslaved people.

I also have deep admiration for Ida B. Wells, who was alone as a journalist in standing up to the campaign of domestic terrorism and lynchings against African Americans. And we have to draw from the legacy of Ida B. Wells and renew our commitment to fighting domestic terrorism in our own time.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to joining the gentlewoman in that fight and learning from her.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, my coanchor has very powerfully captured the many heroes in our community, historical heroes as well, and heroes who pushed against the edge, walked right up to the line, never failed to be courageous, never failed to work on behalf of people who were voiceless and powerless.

Harriet Tubman was that woman. She was General Moses, and she told slaves that it was not going to be their task to stop along the railroad, they were going to get to their destination—and I guess she was a little harsh—dead or alive.

That is the push of the Congressional Black Caucus. We are not violent people, so I won't say dead or alive. But we are consistently engaged in pushing the envelope, pushing the margins, and pushing the conscience of this Congress led certainly over a huge number of years by the late John Robert Lewis and John Conyers, who headed the Judiciary Committee and fought against every civil rights injustice.

So many leaders. As I indicated, Shirley Chisholm, who ran for the Presidency. And Barbara Jordan, who sat on the impeachment committee as a young Member and said, We, the People. She denied any right of anyone to undermine the Constitution.

□ 2115

Her voice was strong and powerful. I am glad to call her my mentor and my predecessor.

And so I just want to give these words. I want to capture some words here on that insurrection.

Everyone knew the outcome of the 2020 Presidential election long before January 6, 2021. We also knew that the States had gone to a lot of traversing, even they were sued, and they still came back as each State leader said, no fraud: This is the outcome.

Because of the transparency of each State's election administration and

that of the joint meeting of Congress, it would simply confirm that Joe Biden had won more than a majority of the electoral votes along with winning the national popular vote by more than seven million votes.

We all know that this was a historic election; more votes than we had ever counted, I believe, in the history of the United States. There was such a sense of exhilaration because democracy was alive. There were so many young people that voted. So many people of the potpourri of America, all backgrounds.

We felt so good about voting together, many of us voting the same way for the same candidate, as evidenced by his victory. States that we had lost 4 years ago, enthusiastically voting for change, for goodness, for a spirit of unity. We knew something was on the horizon.

But isn't it interesting that after that election, for months, people had been told a complete lie, which allowed them to stay in places that we did not know and conspire to come and attack this place, this holy place, this place of democracy, this place that has, Madam Speaker, above you, In God We Trust.

They attacked this place and the riot came immediately after then-President Trump promoted a march on the Capitol and called his supporters to stop the steal; never give up; never concede, and to fight like hell, during a speech that day, asserting that they would not have a country anymore if they did not act.

I read these into our message of our power hour message, 50 years of the Congressional Black Caucus, because I think history will tell. Reading the annals of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, you will see that members of the Congressional Black Caucus, when they were tiny, until we have expanded, have consistently gone to the floor on questions of justice and expanding opportunity and ensuring that justice is a respecter of color or age or region. We fight for justice no matter what the color of your skin, what your background is.

We are purists as it relates to justice. We love the Constitution, because—even though we were three-fifths of a person, we were not a human being when it was finalized—it was a document that grew and continues to breathe rights, from the First Amendment to the 13th Amendment, 14th Amendment, 15th Amendment, to the right for women to vote, to the amendments that deal with a right to a trial by jury, to the Fifth Amendment, due process, and the protection of your property. These are all breathing documents and words, breathing amendments that have allowed a people who were in bondage to scrap their way out of the devastation of hatred. We use this Constitution.

But shamefully, that fight has to continue. And on January 6, that fight, that scab was torn off again. That rug was burning again. Those who came to say that they were fighting for Trump and fighting to overturn the election,

but more importantly, they are fighting because the election was theirs, they called a Black officer the N word more times than he can remember, caused him to break down, among others. And he had the courage to say, all that they tried to do failed.

Let me just show these depictions of our journey. I will start with this one. This year, 2021, is the 100th anniversary—I hate to even use that term—of the Tulsa riot. Allegedly, a young Black man in an elevator was alleged to have touched a White woman. I think when he finally got out of the elevator it was alleged rape, or it was rape, a typical story, over and over again.

That is why we have such pain for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Walter Scott, Tamir Rice, Trayvon Martin, Ahmaud Arbery, Pamela Turner, Sandra Bland, Jacob Blake, and Elijah McClain in Colorado, and names beyond, Sean Bell, Eric Garner, the mothers who have become friends, Michael Brown, that is why we have such pain.

And I guess my constituent—the family that has become America's family, along with all the other mothers and fathers—George Floyd grew up in Houston, Texas, in the Cuney Homes, public housing. His mother was the queen of public housing, took in children, fed children. They felt like they were at home in the Floyd family.

Big George is what he was called. Big man. Took his brothers and sisters under his wing. George Floyd played basketball—my recollection is—in China with Yao Ming when they were young players, not pros. We never know who someone is.

So this is the 100th anniversary of probably some of the likes of those names that I called. Life cut down.

And this depiction is Captured Negroes on way to Convention Hall during the Tulsa race riot. They were captured. There was no justice. 300 Negroes, Black Americans were buried in an unmarked grave, as we are told. This is how it was. This is how it was. This is how it was.

The Congressional Black Caucus will be commemorating that this year. And I will introduce legislation with Senator WARREN, on the Tulsa race riots next week.

4,000, 4,000-plus Blacks were hung. And as you can see, there were smiling faces in the crowd. It was entertainment. Come to the town square.

No, this is not a depiction of some dastardly person who did violent acts and raided through the community. This could have been someone walking along a dark road. It could have been the three boys in Mississippi during the civil rights movement; they were just driving, trying to get to their destination.

These folks could have been walking. We had one woman who had a dispute with a storekeeper. She was a businesswoman. She was ultimately hung; never came back home. The family was looking for where she might be.

It looks like another celebratory occasion, hanging. We will hear more of this when we proceed to discuss our commission to study and develop reparation proposals.

But let me—before I yield to my good friend and co-anchor, I just want you to see this one. This gentleman's name was—I am going to call him Mr. Gordon. He is a slave—was a slave, deceased. And clearly, those are markings of a very bad beating. But that is not the end of his story.

This gentleman came out of slavery and fought in the Civil War on behalf of the Union. This is what we did. We always rise to the occasion.

You will hear more about our story. But I wanted to make sure that we just got a sense of how we have been overcomers. But even with being overcomers, we know there is more to do.

Madam Speaker, I am very delighted to be able to yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. WILLIAMS), and she is, in her own right, a leader, a new member of this body, has civil rights in her blood, she is a mother, and she is here ready to fight for our children's education and she will succeed.

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues and I observe Black History Month and celebrate 50 years of Our Power, Our Message.

For 50 years, the Congressional Black Caucus has uplifted the voices of Black people and other marginalized communities so that they can share in the promise of America for all.

For the 117th Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus marks a new milestone with 58 members, the largest membership in CBC history. The next 50 years of Our Power, Our Message is strong.

We are here in D.C. witnessing more Black history being made with the first Black woman, HBCU grad, our soror, and a member of our Congressional Black Caucus serving as Vice President of the United States. Indeed, our power and our message are strong.

While we continue to make great strides, it is not lost on me that 2020 was a difficult year for Black people across this country. Collectively, we battled a pandemic that continues to infect and kill Black people at disproportionate rates.

In my home State of Georgia, Black people are also experiencing some of the highest levels of unemployment in decades. By November 2020, Black Georgians had filed 71 percent more unemployment claims than White, Hispanic, Latinx, and Asian-American workers combined.

Being Black in Georgia, we fight daily for what so many take for granted in this country, the right to vote, the right to the fair and equal treatment that George Floyd didn't get, the right to be, the right to exist.

Today, in particular, we reflect on how far we have to go. One year ago, Ahmaud Arbery was hunted down and

murdered, simply because he was a Black man going for a jog in Brunswick, Georgia.

His murder by white supremacists and the subsequent delays in realizing justice may seem new, but Black people have dealt with systemic racism for centuries in America, and we are here to break these structures and dismantle these systems using our power and our message as the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her words and certainly her powerful words on the importance of our Vice President, the Honorable Vice President Harris. We are grateful for her.

It is my pleasure to yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), my co-anchor.

□ 2130

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to my classmate, Congress Member NIKEMA WILLIAMS, who, as the chair of the Georgia Democratic Party, was instrumental in winning the Senate for the Democratic Party.

Thanks to the leadership of on-the-ground organizers like Congress Member WILLIAMS, a Democratic Senate, a Democratic House, a Democratic President means we have the makings of an FDR moment. We have a historic opportunity to govern as boldly in the 21st century as FDR did in the 20th century.

Systemic racism in America traces back 400 years, and it is incredible to think that in the 400-year history of our country, we are as close as we have ever been to confronting the root causes of systemic racism.

That is the burden that we bear as the Congressional Black Caucus, but it is not only a burden. It is a blessing. Public service in an FDR moment is a blessing.

It is said the first historian, Herodotus, said that he wrote the first historical book so that the deeds of brave people cannot be forgotten. That is the same reason the CBC exists, so that the deeds of Black heroes like Harriet Tubman and Ida B. Wells, like John Lewis, like Barack Obama and KAMALA HARRIS, are never forgotten, that the contributions of Black America should remain front and center in the life of our country.

It has been an honor to be with you, Congress Member JACKSON LEE. I cannot tell you how honored I feel to be a member of the CBC.

You know, I grew up poor most of my life. I was raised by a single mother who had to raise three children on minimum wage, which in the 1990s was \$4.25 an hour. I grew up in public housing, in conditions of mold and mildew, leaks and lead, without consistent heat and hot water in the winter. I never could have imagined myself as a member of the greatest institution in the United States Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus. It is an honor to

be here with you in this caucus at this moment.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, we are humbled by the gentleman's words. We are humbled by this moment in history.

I will conclude my remarks by building on Congressman TORRES', that we are humbled, but we are honored, but we are ready to work.

I will leave you with these words from our colleague and others. John Lewis said we are in a very difficult time in our country. I am afraid we may wake up one day in America, and our democracy is gone. But he went on to say that when you see something that is not right, say something, do something, get into good trouble.

One of our ancient fathers, Frederick Douglass, said that there is no power without struggle.

Tonight, we have laid the landscape of genius, contributions, sacrifice, brilliance, and the commitment to civil rights that is the Congressional Black Caucus. Our message, our power, Our Power, Our Message. We will continue to work. We will not yield, not give in, not give out, and not give up.

Madam Speaker, let me thank my colleagues for joining the CBC Special Order tonight, and I thank the Speaker.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, this evening, on the occasion of this special order hour, I rise to commemorate the Congressional Black Caucus and its rich history of representation of Black voices across the nation.

Today's Black Caucus is the materialization of the vision that our founding members had 50 years ago. Now nearly 60 members strong, our caucus has fought to empower the Black community so that they too may achieve the American Dream. And our success in doing so, as well as upholding the fundamentals of democracy, is unparalleled in this body's history.

Now, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we face one of our toughest challenges yet. While it is true that the pandemic has affected all of us in some way, it has especially highlighted and exacerbated the inequalities that the Black community still faces in our society. We have been forced to battle the pandemic on two fronts—health-wise and economically.

Studies show that the comorbidities most closely associated with COVID-19 complications are diabetes and hypertension, which disproportionately affect the Black community. The prevalence of these diseases is systemic in nature—a result of decades of a lack of access to quality, accessible, and culturally competent medical care.

I have also met with Black business owners in North Texas, who credited preexisting funding gaps and feeble relationships with lenders for their hardships during the pandemic. Disadvantaged at the onset, these businesses became increasingly unable to meet market needs, and reports now say that the pandemic has wiped out nearly half of Black small businesses in our country.

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Black Caucus has played a critical role in the

drafting and enacting of legislation to support Black Americans—including President Biden's newest package. Billed as the American Rescue Plan, the \$1.9 trillion relief package consists of several provisions advocated for by the Black Caucus. Among them include \$400 billion for vaccine distribution with a focus on minority communities, \$15 billion for equitably distributed grants to minority-owned small businesses, and investment in infrastructure projects to create more jobs for unemployed minorities.

Madam Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus will certainly play a prominent Congress for generations to come. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in the caucus to advance better, more equitable policies for all.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned

until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2020, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR., Jan. 15, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH, Jan. 22, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JERROLD NADLER, Jan. 22, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at the right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM SMITH, Feb. 2, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF, Jan. 8, 2021.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-359. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Market Participants Division, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants (RIN: 3038-AF05) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-360. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants (RIN: 3038-AF03) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-361. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Market Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Swap Execution Facilities (RIN: 3038-AE25) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-362. A letter from the Deputy Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) Annual Threshold Adjustments (Credit Cards, HOEPA, and Qualified Mortgages) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-363. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Executive Order on Access to Affordable Life-saving Medications (RIN: 0906-AB25) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-364. A letter from the Agency Representative, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rules of Practice to Allocate the Burden of Persuasion on Motions to Amend in Trial Proceedings Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board [Docket No.: PTO-P-2019-0011] (RIN: 0651-AD34) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-365. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Natchez, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0641] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-366. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Neuse River, New Bern, NC [Docket No.: USCG-USCG-2020-0645] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-367. A letter from the Chief Petty Officer, CG-LPD, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; Fleet Week Demonstration Area, San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0655] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-368. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation: Fort Lauderdale Air Show; Atlantic Ocean, Fort Lauderdale, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0128] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-369. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Rollover Rules for Qualified Plan Loan Offset Amounts [TD 9937] (RIN: 1545-BP46) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-370. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Guidance on Sections 102 and 103 of the SECURE Act With Respect to Safe Harbor Plans [Notice 2020-86] received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-371. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — COVID-19 Relief for Employers Using the Automobile Lease Valuation Rule [Notice 2021-7] received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-372. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Administrative Appeals Procedures for Tax-Advantaged Bonds (Rev. Proc. 2021-10) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. SCANLON: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 147. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 803) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-6). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 1210. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. MEERS):

H.R. 1211. A bill to direct the Department of State to ensure persons representing the United States in international athletic competitions in certain countries are appropriately informed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SOTO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BASS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H.R. 1212. A bill to end preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1213. A bill to require elementary schools and secondary schools to provide an option for safe, in-person attendance during school years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. MANN, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. WALTZ):

H.R. 1214. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that knowingly spread malign disinformation as part of or on behalf of a foreign government or political party for purposes of political warfare and to require a determination regarding the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. RUSH, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CASE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 1215. A bill to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to prevent fraud targeting seniors and to direct the Commission to include additional information in an annual report to Congress on fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1216. A bill to establish an advisory commission regarding eligibility for health care furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOST (for himself and Ms. CHENEY):

H.R. 1217. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for

use by the national instant criminal background check system; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 1218. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 1219. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LAMB, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 1220. A bill to reauthorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JONES, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SIRES, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RYAN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MENG, Ms. WATERS, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 1221. A bill to increase deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in low-income communities and communities of color, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 1222. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 1223. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to individuals associated with the Government of the Russian Federation who are complicit in the poisoning and repression of citizens of the Russian Federation for political motives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. PORTER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 1224. A bill to reauthorize the authority of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 1225. A bill to improve diversity and inclusion in the workforce of national security agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), the Judiciary, Homeland Security, Agriculture, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Mr. BALDERSON, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. TRONE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CASE, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1226. A bill to establish a Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corps program within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DELGADO (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 1227. A bill to establish a public health plan; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. MALINOWSKI):

H.R. 1228. A bill to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 1229. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 1230. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 1231. A bill to prohibit the reentry of the United States into the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action unless the President makes certain certifications relating to Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 1232. A bill to require a five-year staffing plan for the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. KIND, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. VAN

DUYNE, Mr. STEIL, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 1233. A bill to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and most recently of Colleyville, Texas, before his death on April 2, 2020, for acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HASTINGS (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 1234. A bill to end the use of corporal punishment in schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER (for herself and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 1235. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of anatomical gifts and organ transplants; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H.R. 1236. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety of imported seafood; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 1237. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit a person from knowingly providing substantial assistance relating to a contribution or donation by a foreign national, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1238. A bill to establish the Office of the Ombudsperson for Immigrant Children in Government Custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 1239. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on motor vehicle recalls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 1240. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify prevented planting coverage; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 1241. A bill to improve the full-service community school program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1242. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for lifelong learning accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1243. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for training services received by individuals who are unemployed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 1244. A bill to repeal certain foreign affairs reporting requirements; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 1245. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interfering with voter registration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 1246. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to allow ranchers and farmers to use an alternative calculation for a maximum loan amount under the paycheck protection program; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 1247. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to include an act of unregulated custody transfer in the definition of child abuse and neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. BASS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BROWN):

H.R. 1248. A bill to remove all statutes of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MENG, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mrs. LAWRENCE):

H.R. 1249. A bill to discourage the use of payment of money as a condition of pretrial release in criminal cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1250. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. KEATING):

H.R. 1251. A bill to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 1252. A bill to provide for certain construction-related authorities of the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MEUSER (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 1253. A bill to modernize and streamline the public diplomacy capabilities of the Department of State, increase evaluation of public diplomacy programming, enhance strategic planning for the Department's pub-

lic diplomacy physical presence abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BUDD, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ROY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. PALMER, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. JACKSON, Mrs. MCCLAIN, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 1254. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify certain requirements for Federal agencies in the disposition of surplus real property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER):

H.R. 1255. A bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Reform, House Administration, Education and Labor, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1256. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to remove the bronze plaque and concrete block bearing the name of Francis Newlands from the grounds of the memorial fountain located at Chevy Chase Circle in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 1257. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the effect of financial and credit counseling for homeless veterans and veterans experiencing housing instability; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 1258. A bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ROSENDALE (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. HARRIS, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ROY, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, and Mr. PALAZZO):

H.R. 1259. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to continue to implement the Migrant Protection Protocols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER):

H.R. 1260. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma center violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RYAN (for himself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 1261. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself and Mr. DESAULNIER):

H.R. 1262. A bill to establish a task force on improvements for certain notices to airmen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. BANKS):

H.R. 1263. A bill to limit Federal funding for institutions of higher education that have partnerships with the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. CASE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 1264. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require corporations to report disbursements made by foreign nationals for purposes of disseminating campaign-related public communications and to inquire whether persons providing such disbursements are foreign nationals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 1265. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make the disclosure of the identity of a whistleblower a criminal offense, to provide a civil right of action for the disclosure of the identity of a whistleblower, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. BROWNLEY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 1266. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require reporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SWALWELL:

H.R. 1267. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit corrupt foreign influence over the President, the Vice President, and their immediate family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SIREN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JONES, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 1268. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award targeted grants to State, Tribal, Territorial, and local health departments or nonprofit organizations in geographic locations with racial and ethnic minorities and other vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 to disseminate information regarding the safety and efficacy of

COVID-19 vaccines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 1269. A bill to amend titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus and a Medicare Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Medicare surplus, to provide for suspension of investment of amounts held in such Accounts until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Funds in investment vehicles other than obligations of the United States, and to establish a Social Security and Medicare Part A Investment Commission to make recommendations for alternative forms of investment of the Social Security and Medicare surpluses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JONES, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. HASTINGS):

H.R. 1270. A bill to prohibit private passenger automobile insurers from using certain income proxies to determine insurance rates and eligibility; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1271. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax credits related to electric cars, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 1272. A bill to require Federal agencies to conduct a benefit-cost analysis on relocations involving the movement of employment positions to different areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 1273. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans who served in the Vietnam theater of operations during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H. Res. 146. A resolution electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. VEASEY):

H. Res. 148. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to Marcus Garvey; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H. Res. 149. A resolution calling on President Biden to immediately implement his

radical climate agenda at the White House by prohibiting use of petroleum-based products and energy sources; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MANN (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. ISSA, Mr. COMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. HERRELL, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BOST, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. BACON, Mr. EMMER, Mr. JACKSON, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KELLER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. McCLAIN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CLINE, Mr. PENCE, Mr. CARL, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LUTKEMEYER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. FULCHER, Mrs. HINSON, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. CASE, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. ESTES):

H. Res. 150. A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 20 to February 27, 2021, as "National FFA Week", recognizing the important role of the National FFA (FFA) Organization in developing the next generation of leaders who will change the world, and celebrating 50 years of National FFA Alumni and Supporters; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. CHU, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. TITUS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. COOPER, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. BERA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. POCAN, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GALLEGGO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CASE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CROW, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. LEE of

California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BEYER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LIEU, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. DEAN, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CARSON, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. TRONE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. COHEN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. PINGREE, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H. Res. 151. A resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. BASS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H. Res. 152. A resolution supporting the designation of March 2021 as Endometriosis Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H. Res. 153. A resolution condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian-American and Pacific Islanders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 1210.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. McCAUL:

H.R. 1211.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 1212.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 7

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1213.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 1214.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 1215.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1217.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 1218.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. CARDENAS:

H.R. 1219.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 1220.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 1221.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1222.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1223.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 1224.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 1225.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 1226.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. DELGADO:

H.R. 1227.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 1228.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 1229.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8. To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 1230.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 1231.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 3

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 1232.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article II, Section 2

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 1233.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. HASTINGS:

H.R. 1234.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER:

H.R. 1235.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 1, Article I Section 8 Clause 3, Article I Section 8 Clause 18

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 1236.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S.C. Article I Section 8

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 1237.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1238.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 1239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 1240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 1241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 1242.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 1243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. KIM of California:

H.R. 1244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 1245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KIND:

H.R. 1246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 1247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 1248.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional authority for this bill is derived pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States. Constitutional authority further derives from the authorities in Article IV, Section 3, clause 2, which provides Congress with the power to “dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory and other Property belonging to the United States.”

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 1249.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 1250.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 1251.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. McCAUL:
H.R. 1252.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. MEUSER:
H.R. 1253.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8
By Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina:
H.R. 1254.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 (Clause 1, Clause 17, and Clause 18) of the U.S. Constitution and Article 4, Section 3 (Clause 2) of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:
H.R. 1255.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clauses 3 and 18 of Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 1256.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 1257.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. PINGREE:
H.R. 1258.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. ROSENDALE:
H.R. 1259.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:
H.R. 1260.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to institute legislation which is necessary and proper for the protection of the American people.

By Mr. RYAN:
H.R. 1261.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8: "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. STAUBER:
H.R. 1262.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 (related to the regulation of Commerce with foreign Nation, and among the several States, and with Indian tribes).

By Ms. STEFANIK:
H.R. 1263.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1264.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4; Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1265.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18; Article I, Section 9, Clause 7

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1266.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 4; Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1267.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18; Article I, Section 9, Clause 8

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 1268.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. WALBERG:
H.R. 1269.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1—The Congress shall have power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:
H.R. 1270.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WELCH:
H.R. 1271.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. WEXTON:
H.R. 1272.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. ZELDIN:
H.R. 1273.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 30: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 38: Mr. KELLER.
H.R. 55: Ms. BOURDEAUX and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 82: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. THOMPSON

of California, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 174: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 305: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. TRONE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MANNING, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.R. 322: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. MANN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 328: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JONES, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 343: Mr. JACKSON and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 369: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 376: Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H.R. 392: Ms. MENG, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. WATERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 399: Mr. SAN NICOLAS and Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 426: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 446: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 454: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 460: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 471: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. ROSE.

H.R. 475: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 480: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 499: Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 533: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 537: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.

H.R. 542: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. CARSON, Mr. NADLER, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 543: Mr. BUCK.
H.R. 547: Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. EMMER, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 553: Mr. SAN NICOLAS and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 565: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 575: Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 576: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 584: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 586: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 588: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 597: Ms. SCANLON, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.

H.R. 605: Mr. OWENS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. MAST, and Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 606: Mr. GUEST, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.

H.R. 611: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 612: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 616: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 623: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. CORREA, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 638: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 677: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 684: Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. BOST, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. PALMER.

H.R. 693: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 707: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

H.R. 708: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 724: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 725: Mrs. CAMMACK and Mrs. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 754: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 755: Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H.R. 773: Ms. CHU.

H.R. 793: Mr. KATKO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Ms. SHERRILL.

H.R. 794: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CHU, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 824: Mr. BABIN.
 H.R. 825: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 826: Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 834: Ms. HERRELL and Mr. HICE of Georgia.
 H.R. 839: Ms. WILD and Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 842: Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 845: Mr. MANN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. UPTON.
 H.R. 859: Mr. MOONEY.
 H.R. 892: Mr. LUCAS.
 H.R. 896: Mrs. HARTZLER.
 H.R. 907: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 909: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SOTO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BASS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
 H.R. 920: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. KUSTER, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
 H.R. 941: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
 H.R. 964: Mr. CARTER of Texas and Mr. BAIRD.
 H.R. 992: Mr. BABIN and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
 H.R. 993: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
 H.R. 1005: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 1006: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 1007: Mr. QUIGLEY.
 H.R. 1012: Mr. RYAN and Mr. GAETZ.
 H.R. 1013: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. CAWTHORN, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. MACE, and Mr. GOSAR.
 H.R. 1014: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BACON, and Ms. STEFANIK.
 H.R. 1016: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. EVANS.
 H.R. 1035: Mr. KATKO, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. CARSON, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. COSTA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 1048: Ms. MACE.
 H.R. 1051: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1055: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1061: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1065: Mr. TURNER, Mr. UPTON, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. KINZINGER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 1069: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1073: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1075: Ms. CHU, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. BROWNLEY.
 H.R. 1095: Mr. CORREA and Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 1098: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
 H.R. 1103: Ms. FOXX.

H.R. 1105: Mr. GOSAR.
 H.R. 1112: Mr. ISSA, Mr. CARSON, Mr. KEATING, Mr. COSTA, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. JACKSON.
 H.R. 1113: Mr. HAGEDORN, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. FEENSTRA.
 H.R. 1115: Mr. COLE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. RYAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. MANN, and Mr. COURTNEY.
 H.R. 1116: Ms. LEE of California and Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 1132: Mr. BUDD.
 H.R. 1137: Mr. BABIN.
 H.R. 1145: Mr. RICE of South Carolina and Mr. PALAZZO.
 H.R. 1159: Ms. NORTON, Mr. GALLEG0, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
 H.R. 1163: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. WEXTON.
 H.R. 1165: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 1166: Mr. CARL.
 H.R. 1170: Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 1176: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SIREs, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
 H.R. 1192: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 1193: Miss RICE of New York.
 H.R. 1196: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 1203: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, and Mr. BABIN.
 H.J. Res. 1: Mr. NADLER, Mr. CROW, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.J. Res. 25: Mr. GROTHMAN.
 H. Res. 64: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. NADLER.
 H. Res. 98: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
 H. Res. 110: Mrs. SPARTZ.
 H. Res. 113: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. BAIRD.
 H. Res. 114: Mr. TONKO, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. MENG, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. BOST.
 H. Res. 127: Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
 H. Res. 130: Mr. KEATING, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. ISSA, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
 H. Res. 133: Mrs. HARTZLER.
 H. Res. 134: Mr. KEATING, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. KIM of California, and Ms. OMAR.

H. Res. 136: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. CASE.
 H. Res. 137: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KEATING, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. CASE.
 H. Res. 142: Mr. JACKSON.
 H. Res. 144: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois and Ms. MANNING.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarked, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY Ms. LOFGREN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mrs. MALONEY

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Reform in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. NADLER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. SCOTT

The provisions in H.R. 5 that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and Labor do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY Mrs. WATERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Financial Services in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. GRIJALVA

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Natural Resources in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. SMITH

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Armed Services in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.